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No big right tilt on school boards

Elections reveal a general pushback against conservatives

By Dan Petrella and Zareen Syed
Chicago Tribune

Voters across the Chicago suburbs and around the state turned back attempts to pull local school boards to the right in Tuesday's elections, though conservative candidates had pockets of success, winning enough seats to take control in some districts.

Typically low-cost, low-interest school board races have become national political proxy fights following the COVID-19 pandemic, and the Chicago suburbs have become a key battleground.

Efforts by conservative groups pushing national Republican talking points about "parental rights," "gender ideology" and "critical race theory" were met in Illinois with an unprecedented pushback from the state Democratic Party, which pledged nearly $300,000 to oppose candidates it labeled "extremists." Teachers unions also took a more active role in campaigning this spring.

While mail-in ballots are still arriving and being counted, Democrats and teachers unions this week were declaring victory, with the state party boasting a 72% success rate and the Illinois Education Association, the state's largest teachers union, touting that nearly 90% of its recommended candidates won.

From Oswego to Barrington to Downers Grove to Lyons Township and beyond, organized slates of conservative candidates backed by right-wing groups such as Awake Illinois, Moms for Liberty and the national 1776 Project Political Action Committee saw defeat, according to unofficial election results.

At the same time, conservatives appeared poised to take control of school boards in places such as northwest suburban Huntley and in tiny Fairview School District 72 in Skokie.

"Fortunately, the voters saw through the hidden

Turn to Election, Page 5

City Hall torch-passing begins

Mayor Lori Lightfoot meets with successor Brandon Johnson, vows to aid in smooth transition. **Chicagoland, Page 4**

WAR IN UKRAINE

Maksim Stasiv, left, and his mother, Bohdana Stasiv, sit during a Palm Sunday service at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral in Chicago. The two are celebrating their first Easter in the U.S. after leaving Ukraine. **ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

'Faith in the future'

Ukrainians prepare to celebrate their first Easter in Chicago after fleeing Russian war

By Angie Leventis Lourgos | Chicago Tribune

As the mother's fingertips touched the soft buds of a pussy willow branch blessed by a priest a few minutes prior, the familiar texture took her back to her homeland, war-torn Ukraine. To begin Holy Week, 48-year-old Bohdana Stasiv and her son Maksim, 24, celebrated Palm Sunday at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral in Chicago's Ukrainian Village neighborhood.

The mother and son are preparing for their first Easter in the safety and refuge of the United States since fleeing the war and arriving in Chicago in October.

"It is not hard to celebrate here, because all of the traditions are offered to us," Bohdana said after church, speaking through an interpreter. "It reminds me of what is back home, and it makes me feel at home."

Since palm trees don't typically grow in the colder climate of Eastern Europe, Ukrainians have traditionally substituted pussy willows during the Palm Sunday observance. The ritual blessing of willow branches, a Ukrainian symbol of spring and rebirth, has been passed down for generations, Bohdana said.

Maksim added that he associates pussy willows — which adorned the cathedral and were distributed to parishioners after the service — with the coming resurrection of Christ.

"The willow tree was dormant during the wintertime," he said. "And Christ was in the tomb and He rose on the third day. In

Turn to Easter, Page 4

"For me, it was the hardest time in my life. I knew that Dmitriy was killed and I knew that (my sister) would never be as happy as she was with him." *— Twenty-five-year-old Halia Didula*

Firefighters cope with pair of deaths

City department had unprecedented losses during back-to-back blazes

By Adriana Perez, Nell Salzman and Jake Sheridan
Chicago Tribune

Pelt

Tchoryk

For many in the Chicago Fire Department, the two firefighters who perished in separate back-to-back blazes this week weren't just colleagues.

Lt. Jan Tchoryk, 55, who died Wednesday in a Gold Coast fire, and firefighter Jermaine Pelt, 49, who died Tuesday during a West Pullman blaze, were more like brothers to those who worked alongside them.

The unprecedented consecutive deaths have touched many throughout the tight-knit department. And while the fallen first responders' funeral arrangements have yet to be made, fellow firefighters are grieving and remembering the men.

"I don't even think we had time to process the first one," said Chicago Firefighters Union Local 2 spokesman Patrick Quane. Then 24 hours later, it happened "all over again."

The Chicago Fire Department veteran couldn't remember a time when separate blazes left

Turn to Deaths, Page 3

Firefighters hug on Wednesday at the Chicago Fire Department station that houses Tower Ladder 10. **SHANNA MADISON/ CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

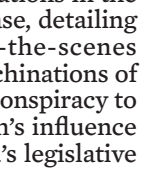
'COMED FOUR' TRIAL

Ochoa testifies on path to board

Call confirms months of plans for appointment

By Jason Meisner and Ray Long
Chicago Tribune

The plan to get Juan Ochoa appointed to a lucrative position on Commonwealth Edison's board of directors had been in the works for nearly eight months when then-House Speaker Michael Madigan got a call from his closest confidant saying it was close to a done deal.



Ochoa

"Speaker, Juan Ochoa. You may call him," Michael McClain, a former lobbyist working as a consultant for the utility, said on the July 17, 2018, call.

After confirming that Anne Pramaggiore, the newly promoted CEO of ComEd parent Exelon Utilities, had given the green light for Ochoa to be notified, Madigan said he'd make the call — but not to Ochoa.

"I'll probably call Gutiérrez, tell him first," Madigan said, referring to Ochoa's chief political backer, then-U.S. Rep. Luis Gutiérrez. "I mean, he's the reason I would talk to Juan Ochoa."

The call, played for the jury in the "ComEd Four" bribery trial Thursday, highlighted one of the central allegations in the sprawling case, detailing the behind-the-scenes political machinations of the alleged conspiracy to win Madigan's influence over ComEd's legislative agenda.

It also offered the jury a not-so-subtle lesson in how important corporate board appointments often get made in Illinois' hyper-political environment, where powerful elected officials pull the strings and a "recommendation" can come across more like an order.

Turn to Trial, Page 5

TODAY'S WEATHER

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Complete Chicagoland forecast on Page 12

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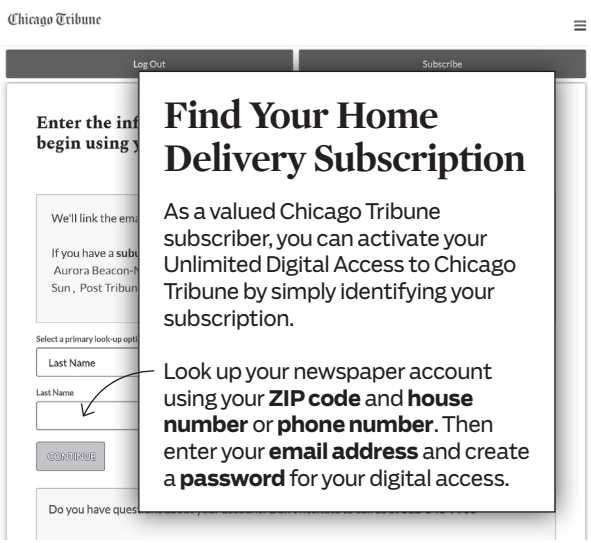
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"Culture Worrier: Reflections on Race, Politics and Social Change." Clarence Page's newest book commemorates the 30th anniversary of his column's first appearance in the Tribune. It is the first such collection of the Pulitzer Prize winner's columns, covering topics such as politics, social issues, pop culture, race, family, new media and prominent figures, as well as his personal life.

"10 Things You Might Not Know About Nearly Everything." You may never need to know the human body contains a half-pound of salt, but that's just one of the obscure facts you'll find about sports, history, religion, politics, arts and culture, food and leisure, and science and technology in this collection of columns from Mark Jacob and Stephan Benzkofer.

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Northwestern Medicine, secretary of state spotlight need for organ donations

By Olivia Alexander
Chicago Tribune

Dr. John Friedewald, left, medical director of kidney and pancreas transplantation at Northwestern Memorial Hospital, looks on as Dr. Aleksandra Gmurczyk, who had donated a kidney and started a chain that saved that saved two lives, meets Art Reyes, 50, of Chicago, who was one of the transplant recipients, during a news conference at Northwestern Medicine Prentice Women's Hospital on Thursday. **ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

Northwestern Medicine nephrologist Dr. Aleksandra Gmurczyk regularly sees patients with failing kidneys.

She's noticed that many of those she treats would rather stay on dialysis than undergo a kidney transplant. Gmurczyk said she believes that some patients' distrust for the medical system leaves them unconvinced that a transplant could improve their health.

During a news conference Thursday morning at Northwestern's Prentice Women's Hospital in Chicago to spotlight National Donate Life Month, the doctor talked about the enormous impact of receiving a kidney donation.

But she also spoke from her firsthand experience as a donor.

Gmurczyk donated one of her own kidneys eight weeks ago. Her motivation was the pursuit of changing her patients' attitudes about the process.

"I wanted to help someone," Gmurczyk said. "I know people can live healthy lives with one kidney, and I know the high need for living donor organs. I hoped by donating my kidney I'd help someone, and I also wanted to inspire others to donate."

The doctor said the next step during the process was deciding the person who would receive her kidney. In February, she began a kidney paired donation, which occurs when a patient has a kidney donor in mind, but the donor isn't a good match with their designated recipient. In this case, two donors swap recipients, giving their kidneys to the patients who are the better matches.

Gmurczyk's kidney went to a patient in Virginia named Ginger. Ginger's husband, Gary, ended up donating a kidney to Northwestern Medicine patient Art Reyes. The group of four met for the first time Thursday morning during an emotional event raising awareness of living organ donation. (Ginger and Gary requested that their last names not be used.)

Ginger said she became diabetic after pregnancy. For 18 years, her health declined as she experienced high blood pressure and, later, high creatinine.

She began dialysis about two years ago, which she said went well for some time, but became increasingly difficult over time.

While her husband hoped to donate his kidney, the couple learned they weren't a match. They entered the paired program together and ultimately helped save two lives.

Ginger,speaking by Zoom, said to Gmurczyk, "You're as beautiful outside as you are inside."

When Gmurczyk said, "You're going to make me cry," Ginger said she'd been holding it back.

"But we need to be positive and move on and get the story out so there can be more stories like this," she said.

Reyes, who received Gary's kidney, quickly began to cry as he first spoke at the conference.

He said the transplant has been an emotional journey and he thanked Gary for his lifesaving donation. Before the transplant, Reyes said he had no hope. But his life has changed completely with the new kidney.

"There's really no words to say thank you," Reyes said. "You've given me life back, and I'm so grateful."

Illinois Secretary of State Alexi Giannoulias on Thursday morning also highlighted the importance and simplicity of organ and tissue donation during another moving news conference, held in the James R. Thompson Center in Chicago.

One single donor can save or improve the lives of up to 25 people, he said. While more than 7.5 million Illinois residents are registered donors, he said, about 4,000 people remain on the transplant waiting list today, and 300 people die waiting for a transplant every year in the state.

About 2,000 transplants happen in Illinois each year, but "we can and we must do better," Giannoulias said. The secretary of state's office launched a public awareness campaign focusing on the critical need for organ donors, especially in communities of color, where the need for some organs is the greatest, he said.

Giannoulias mentioned Bonnie Raitt's song "Just Like That," which received the 2023 Grammy Award for Song of the Year, during the news conference. Raitt wrote the song after hearing a story about a mother meeting the recipient of her deceased son's heart.

Giannoulias said the song is "tremendously impactful." Part of raising public awareness is drawing on the support of celebrities involved in the cause, he said. For the song to win a Grammy Award is also powerful, he said.

Sheila Chalmers-Currin, village president of Matteson, shared that she lost her son to kidney disease. He died while waiting for a kidney transplant, she said.

"I no longer have my son, but there's so many others that could be saved if we make the difference," she said. "That is my statement to you — that if you want to make a difference in the lives of others and improve the lives of others, please commit to making this different by being an organ donor."

Kim Gossell, a three-time kidney recipient from Palatine, also urged the public to join the organ donation registry. After a long health journey, her most recent kidney transplant is failing.

Still, Gossell said, "The good news is I'm here."

"I ask that if you have any thought of helping a friend, family member or a perfect stranger return to their normal life and to their family, please consider becoming a living organ donor," Gossell said.

To enroll in the state's organ and tissue donor registry, go to LifeGoesOn.com, call 800-210-2106 or visit a secretary of state facility. More information can be found at donatelifeillinois.org.

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SAVINGS UPDATE

What to expect from the Fed on 2023 interest rates

By Sabrina Karl

Last week, the Federal Reserve hiked interest rates another quarter percentage point. Added to eight previous increases, the Fed has raised rates 4.75% over the last twelve months in a bid to tame the highest inflation the U.S. has seen in decades.

Inflation is still a problem, but it has shown signs of slowing. And because Fed moves take time to make their impact, it's been expected that the current rate hike campaign was coming to an end.

That's still the expectation, but recent bank failures have complicated predictions. Before Silicon Valley Bank's failure three weeks ago, market watchers predicted the Fed would raise rates by half a point. The financial sector turmoil, however, caused them to issue a quarter-point hike instead.

The question now is two-fold: how much further will the Fed take rates in 2023, and when might they begin to reduce? Currently, CME Fedwatch shows a 50-50 chance between another quarter-point increase on May 3 and no increase at all. After that, some futures traders start predicting a Fed decrease in July, while a slight majority forecast a September reduction.

But not everyone agrees. Indeed, investment giant Blackrock publicly warned last week that bets on any 2023 Fed rate reductions are extremely premature.

At present, it seems likely the Fed rate peak for the year will be a quarter point higher than today. Raising by a half point before plateauing is not inconceivable, but is looking less probable.

As for rate reductions, they're simply a big guess right now. As this last news cycle of bank failures clearly spotlighted, every Federal Reserve rate decision is made based on the freshest economic data and news. And what we know right now is not what we'll know before each of the six remaining Fed meetings this year.

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CHICAGOLAND

Chicago heavy-handed with salt supply

City keeps plenty on hand for roads, even when there's little snow on the ground

By Richard Requena
Chicago Tribune

Chicago's 2023 winter season has been mild, with snowfall at the lowest it has been in 12 years. To clear the roads of the 18 inches of snow that did fall, the city's Department of Streets and Sanitation used 132,363 tons of salt, or less than a third of its annual inventory, to prevent slippery driving conditions.

There wasn't a lack of precipitation this winter in Chicago — it was just warmer. Snow that Chicagoans would normally expect in December, January and February turned to freezing rain and sleet, a hazard that Streets and Sanitation spokesperson Mimi Simon said is even more concerning than snow when it comes to black ice.

"The amount of snow is only one factor to be considered" for the amount of salt needed, Simon said. "We also take into account the amount of salt we will need for wintry-mix weather like freezing rain, ice and sleet."

But the warmer weather also meant less of a need for salt. As human-induced climate change boosts the effects of natural weather patterns, Chicago could be on track for warmer winters and less snowfall. This winter it was more than 10 inches below average.

The period from Dec. 1 to the end of February was the city's fourth warmest in the last 70 years and the 14th warmest since records began in 1872, according to Illinois state climatologist Trent Ford.

So what happens to the salt that isn't used?

"Salt does not expire," according to Simon.

A high-lift vehicle is used to move salt in a shed March 10. **ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

The start and end of the snow season "is up to Mother Nature," she said.

Typically, the department buys salt in bulk, at $66 a ton, after the season ends to replenish its supply.

Streets and Sanitation used to start out the season with 375,000 tons of salt but upped it to 425,000 after 2017. Simon said there were past seasons when the city would have to buy more salt during the middle of winter, which was difficult to transport at that time of year.

This year, the city spent a bit over $18 million to refill the supply of salt from the year before.

It might not be a surprise that the city gets its fix of sodium chloride from Morton Salt.

That means the salt that stays on your fingertips after eating a bag of chips is the same salt you see on the street. Streets and Sanitation buys a chunkier grade of salt and mixes it with beet juice to prevent ice from forming.

There are 19 locations where salt is stored in the city, and the department has more than 300 snowplows. Resembling a large snowball from the outside, the latest location was built in 2021 near Grand Avenue and Rockwell Street.

rrequena@chicagotribune.com

Deaths

from Page 1

two firefighters dead in two days, but recalled losing two colleagues in the line of duty within one month in late 2010.

"The first thing you feel is failure. We want to be able to save our brother or sister if they go down," Quane said. "And when you can't do that, you feel like a failure. ... We want to be successful 100% of the time. Unfortunately, in this business, we're not."

The life-or-death work creates a "special type of bond," Quane noted. And yet, over 500 badges hang on the fire academy's wall, he added, meaning many in the department know the pain firefighters close with Tchoryk and Pelt are feeling.

Some firefighters isolate themselves from others after a death. Returning to work is hard, Quane said. And then the alarm rings.

"Going back and hearing that bell go off again, having some of those triggers, does make it difficult to go back sometimes," he said.

Firefighter Reynaldo Vargas, who worked with Tchoryk for his entire 15-year-career, heads back to work Friday, he told the Tribune. Vargas saw Tchoryk Wednesday morning before he died of a heart attack on a stairwell while responding to a Gold Coast high-rise fire.

Tchoryk had been standing in the kitchen having a cup of coffee when the bells rang. He dropped what he was doing and got ready to go, Vargas said.

The guys at the firehouse called Tchoryk a "jack-of-all" because he knew a bit about everything.

"Down to fixing a lawn mower, up to firefighter tactics," Vargas said.

Vargas thought of him as a father figure. Tchoryk is the closest person he's known to die fighting a fire, he said. The brutal reality that resulted from what had seemed like a routine call hasn't set in for many of the firefighters who knew the man, Vargas said.

When he's back at work and an emergency call comes, he said, he'll have to focus on what he's doing. Despite the department's many resources, it's a challenge. But the firefighters will share stories and grieve together, as they always do, he said.

"It is a lot to deal with. It is a lot to process," Vargas said. "We think everything will be fine, of course. But at the end of the day you really don't. You never know what could happen."

Vargas said the death made him appreciate his wife and young children more. On Thursday, Tchoryk's cousin Julian Korpyta recalled a Florida Gulf Coast fishing vacation the two took together in September.

His cousin, a Ukrainian born in Poland who made a life in Chicago, loved the outdoors, he said. When Korpyta had transplant surgery for cancer two years ago, Tchoryk brought flowers and cut the grass.

"He was there for you," Korpyta said. "He was my cousin, but he was more like my brother, you know?"

Tragic deaths such as these often lead to post-traumatic stress — or trauma-based fear — and emotional wounds, including the feelings of helplessness, shame and guilt, said Jeff Dill, a retired Palatine Rural Fire Protection District captain and founder of the Firefighter Behavioral Health Alliance.

The "moral injury" hits each firefighter differently, Dill said, it might appear as questions: What if I would have done this? What if I wanted to have done this?

"No one wins when you start thinking like that," Dill said.

After Pelt died of smoke inhalation at a West Pullman residential fire Tuesday, many in the department are wondering what led to his death, department spokesman Larry Langford said.

"The question is, 'Why? Why?'" Langford said.

Other firefighters are wondering if they need to be in better shape for their grueling work, he added.

Lt. Luther Riley, who worked with Pelt for five years, said Pelt was a pillar of the West Pullman community. Pelt, born and raised in the neighborhood, used to cook at the firehouse and run out to check on his mother and father in the middle of the day. He would drop anything to help a friend.

"I don't know what happened, but it doesn't matter because you know what? He'll be missed," Riley said through tears. "We'll really need each other in the next few weeks. It's rough."

Langford said the deaths are "hitting everybody."

"It's still hard," he said. "It's just personal devastation."

Members of the public can support firefighters by reflecting on fire safety in their homes "to make sure you don't have a fire the department members have to risk their lives to put out," Langford said. And if they see someone in uniform, they can offer a "thank you," compassion and prayer too.

"It means a lot. It goes a long way," he said.

The department's clinical therapists are available to firefighters across the department and will pay special attention to the firehouses most affected by the deaths, Langford said. And, as they always do, the fire houses will "talk things out," he added.

On Wednesday, Chicago police brought a couple of emotional support dogs to the Tower Ladder 10 station, where Tchoryk worked.

Such shows of support make a difference, said Jack Berry, executive director of the Illinois Firefighter Peer Support, a group that takes crisis calls and connects first responders to over 200 peers who have been through similar experiences across the state.

The first responder instinct to take care of others sometimes makes it difficult for firefighters to ask for help, Berry said.

"We're fixers," he said. "We tend to want to go and fix everything for everybody, but then we don't take time to help ourselves."

The retired Franklin Park Fire Department lieutenant encouraged firefighters to "reach out and talk." The culture of fire departments is shifting, he said.

"We're starting to make progress and change the culture where we make it a safe place to reach out for help. And we educate firefighters that it's OK to not be OK."

Many firefighters feel most comfortable talking with peers who have been through emergency situations like them, said Dr. Jaime Brower, vice president of peer support & clinician training and certification at Lexipol, a wellness company that serves public safety and government workers.

"You have to understand the world of fire," she said. "And you have to understand how close firefighters all are together. They are family, and so it really is the equivalent of losing a family member. It's devastating."

Firefighters don't have time to grieve and mourn the way that many people do, she said. They have to go right back to work. And it can take years for firefighters to recover.

"When there is a loss, it affects everyone. It's a loss for folks in Chicago fire, but it's also for folks all over the country. They are all reminded very acutely of the risks that they take every day to serve their communities," Brower said.

Firefighters know all too well the service oath they've taken and the risks their job entails, Quane said.

"The bell's not gonna stop going off," he said. "There's always going to be a need for us."

The way to move forward, he said, is to carry on Tchoryk and Pelt's legacy and commitment to the job.

"We're truly resilient. And I think we'll stick together. We've been through tough times like this before," Quane said. "I think we'll get through it. And there's no better way to honor our brothers by carrying on."

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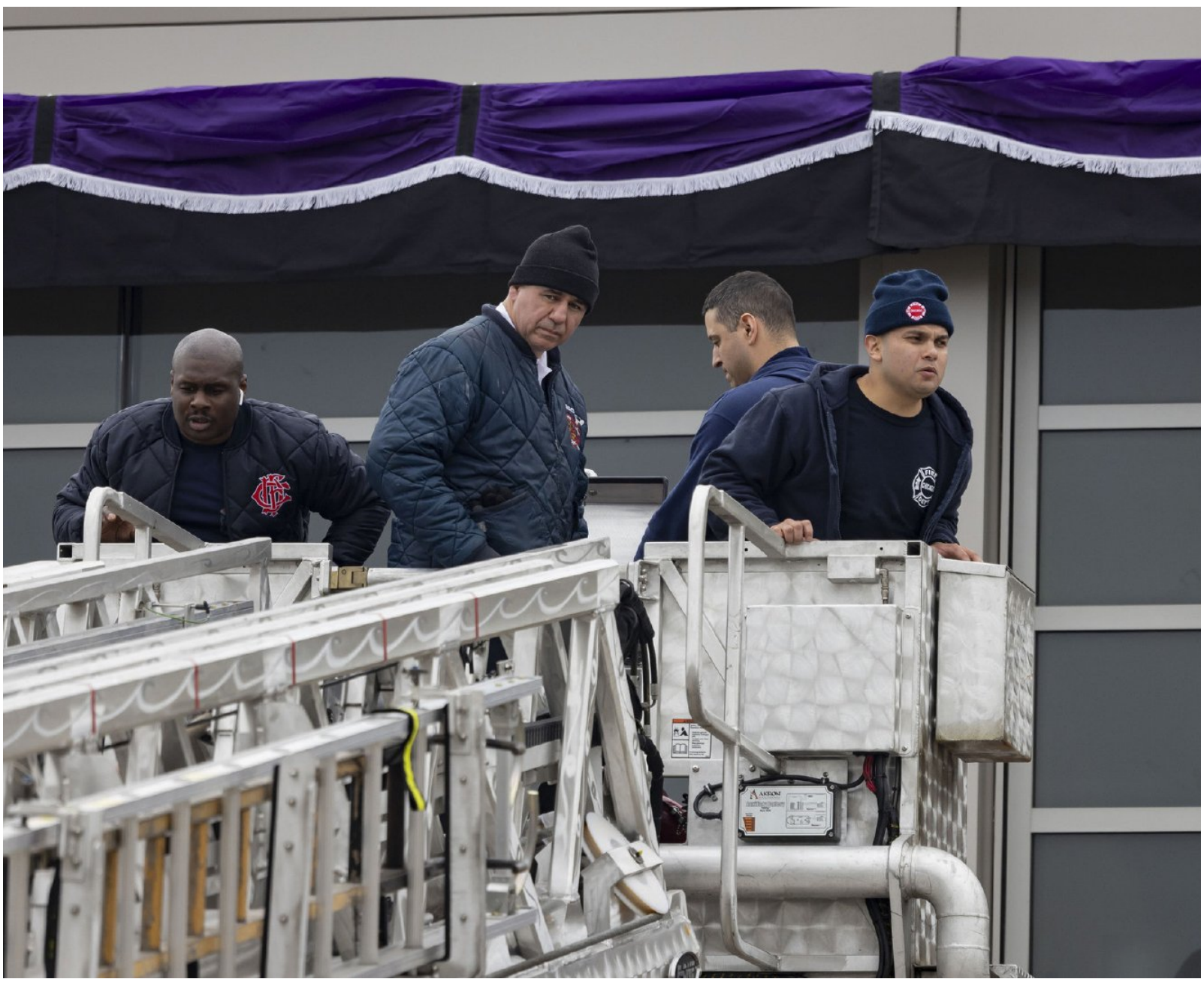

Chicago Fire Department members drape memorial bunting over the engine house on West 119th Street where firefighter Jermaine Pelt worked after Pelt died.

Chicago Fire Department Commissioner Annette Nance-Holt departs Northwestern Memorial Hospital for the procession escorting fallen Chicago firefighter Lt. Jan Tchoryk, 55, after he died Wednesday responding to a high-rise fire in the 1200 block of North DuSable Lake Shore Drive.
BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

‘A very great day for the city of Chicago’

Mayor-elect Johnson meets with Lightfoot to begin leadership transition

By Gregory Pratt
Chicago Tribune

Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot hosted Mayor-elect Brandon Johnson at City Hall Thursday in a traditional meeting between the outgoing chief executive at City Hall and the new one.

“This moment is quite frankly a historical moment where the first Black woman, LGBTQ, transitioned her administration to another Black man,” Johnson told reporters after leaving Lightfoot’s office.

“It’s a very great day for the city of Chicago. We are going to be not only united, we’re going to be a stronger city, one that the rest of the world can look at as a model.”

He praised Lightfoot for a gracious welcome and her commitment to make sure a Johnson administration starts off, as he put it, “literally on the right foot.”

Johnson didn’t offer much by way of specifics about their conversation. But he did say he felt a “flood of emotions” arriving at the fifth floor mayor’s office at City Hall.

“What this moment means for people around the city who want the city to be united, the real opportunity to bring people together and how the office of the mayor has a role and a responsibility to do that, I really began to feel that once I crossed that threshold,” Johnson said.

He later released a statement calling the meeting “a positive, productive discussion today about the future of our city.”

Lightfoot later tweeted that she assured her successor “that myself and the Mayor’s Office staff are ready to support him over the next several weeks.”

Lightfoot lost her reelection bid in the first round of voting on Feb. 28 when she came in third behind Chicago Public Schools CEO Paul Vallas and Johnson.

Johnson, a 47-year-old Chicago Teachers Union organizer and Cook County Board member, then topped Vallas in a close runoff Tuesday, gaining about 51% of the vote to become the city’s next mayor.

He will be sworn in next month.

Mayor Lori Lightfoot greets Mayor-elect Brandon Johnson as he arrives for a transition meeting at City Hall on Thursday. **GREG PRATT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

Easter

from Page 1

the springtime, (the willow) blooms and offers us a time to reflect and to have faith in the future.”

The mother and son came from a small town called Stryi, about 40 miles from the western Ukrainian city of Lviv near the Polish border.

As Russian missiles rained down on their country, Maksim’s health was deteriorating.

He suffers from short bowel syndrome, a condition where the body can’t properly absorb fluids and nutrients, which can result in malnutrition or death. Logistical problems and damaged infrastructure amid the war made it increasingly difficult for him to access lifesaving medications.

Every day, Maksim needs to take total parenteral nutrition, liquid nutrients administered intravenously, to avoid malnourishment. Without it, he fell ill and was admitted to a hospital in Poland for several weeks in September.

After regaining his strength, he and his mother flew from Poland to Chicago, where he was treated at Stroger Hospital and has since been released.

“Now my health is better, because I take the medicine that I need,” said Maksim, who lives with his mother in the Ukrainian Village neighborhood.

Yet they constantly worry about their family and loved ones back home, particularly Maksim’s father, who is still living in Ukraine.

It is difficult for the mother and son to see media images of the devastation in their country. Russia launched its full-scale invasion of Ukraine more than a year ago, and there are no signs of cease-fire for Easter.

“It shouldn’t be this way in the 21st century,” Bohdana said.

As is the custom, after church they gently tapped one another with the willow branches and recited a common saying, which roughly translates as: “It is not me hitting you. It is the willow hitting you. In a week, it will be Easter.”

They bought a Ukrainian Easter bread, called a *paska*, at the cathedral. They plan to return to church with an Easter basket, to have it blessed by a priest.

When Bohdana was a child, these rites and all religious practices were forbidden under the regime of the Soviet Union. She recalled harboring willows branches and Easter baskets in secret, years before Ukraine declared independence in 1991.

“These traditions we continue here, from back home, are absolutely necessary ... to carry through to the future,” Maksim said.

People stand while attending a Palm Sunday service at St Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral in Chicago.

Igor Makota, center, prays at St Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral on Sunday.

Iryna Ryvak, left, touches Bohdana Stasiv with a pussy willow during a service at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral. **ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS**

‘Small part of eternity’

Halia Didula returned to Ukraine to celebrate a wedding.

Instead, she grieved at a funeral.

The 25-year-old had moved from Lviv to Chicago in August to study social work at the University of Illinois at Chicago, on a two-year scholarship that had been planned since 2020.

Halia had shared her story with the Tribune in February, at the one-year anniversary of the war, as she was preparing to travel home to attend her sister Ganusya’s wedding in March.

The marriage was to be a simple church ceremony, no party after, because her sister’s fiance, Dmitriy, was fighting in the Ukrainian army.

In early March, when 23-year-old Ganusya picked Halia up from an airport in Poland, she seemed distraught. She had seen her fiance two weeks earlier, but he had been preoccupied with military operations since then, and their contact had been brief and infrequent.

A few days later, they learned that Dmitriy had been killed by a Russian drone attack.

“For me, it was the hardest time in my life,” Halia said. “I knew that Dmitriy was killed and I knew that (my sister) would never be as happy as she was with him.”

That first night after his death, a tearful Ganusya awakened Halia.

“Please hug me,” Halia remembered her saying. “I can’t close my eyes, because Dmitriy is always in my mind. I still see him.”

The soldier’s funeral was attended by thousands, with mourners spilling out behind the pews, Halia said.

Halia recalled going on a walk alone with Dmitriy just before he went off war. He told her he didn’t want to fight but felt he had to, that it was his responsibility to defend her, her sister and their families.

“He was always saying this is the only way he could live during the war, to be a soldier,” Halia said. “He could not imagine to live as a civilian.”

Now Halia is back in Chicago, but she plans to take a leave of absence from school when the semester concludes in May and to move back home.

Life is so uncertain in Ukraine: Missiles could kill her family and friends at any moment, she said, and she wants to spend as much time as possible with her loved ones.

She plans to spend Easter at St. Nicholas, which is near her Ukrainian Village apartment.

“For me, Easter is the example,” she said. “Jesus was killed for us, and we should be strong in our life and live for Him.”

Her grief, in some ways, has strengthened her faith.

“This life is just a small part of eternity,” she said. “If I am Christian and I really believe, I should believe that Dmitriy is happy, that he is risen. He was defending us and the value of freedom, as God gives freedom to everyone.”

Trauma of war

The first explosions sounded like a double boom on Feb. 24, 2022.

The blasts awakened Marianna Slyvka around dawn. Still groggy, she and her husband peered out the window of their fifth-floor apartment in Kyiv, saw nothing out of the ordinary and went back to bed.

There was another pair of explosions, followed by a few more. Then she stopped counting.

The Slyvkas were stunned to learn that Russia had invaded Ukraine, launching the largest ground war in Europe since World War II.

For several days, the couple and their three children — ages 12, 6 and 3 — stayed at a crowded bomb shelter at a local school. By night, when the Russian fire typically quelled, they returned home and slept in their hallways, away from any windows or doors in case of an attack.

Their 3-year-old had recently been sick with lung inflammation and was still on antibiotics. The breathing conditions in the shelter weren’t ideal, and they worried his health would suffer. The family left Kyiv a few days after the invasion and drove to the home of Marianna’s in-laws, near the border of Moldova.

As they left the nation’s capital, one side of the highway was “completely packed with civilian vehicles, bumper to bumper, for days,” Marianna said, through an interpreter.

On the other side, the family saw an enormous line of new Ukrainian tanks heading into the city. Ukrainian military planes flew close to the ground, whirring overhead.

A few days later, the family left Ukraine through Romania and continued driving until they arrived in Germany in early March, where a former classmate of Marinna’s husband greeted them.

As they drove across Europe, volunteers offered them food and drinks every time they stopped the car, Marianna said.

“The heroism that I had seen in Ukrainian people ... in just a couple of days, people got together and started organizing to defend their home,” she said. “And in that same time, complete strangers all around the world and in Europe were very, very willing to help us in any way they could.”

More than 8 million refugees from Ukraine have been recorded in Europe since the war began, according to United Nations data.

The Slyvkas lived in Germany until August, when a family friend in northwest suburban Crystal Lake sponsored them for entry into the United States via the Uniting for Ukraine program, a fast-tracked process the Biden administration launched in response to the war almost a year ago.

They settled in northwest suburban Niles. Marianna’s husband, who used to own a small clothing manufacturing business in Ukraine, now works as a truck driver.

She said her younger two children initially struggled due to the trauma of war. Her 6-year-old son would pick at his cuticles anxiously, until they were raw and bleeding. At first he didn’t want to go to kindergarten, saying he had no friends, she said.

Her 3-year-old son began having tantrums if even the slightest thing didn’t go his way, like dropping a cracker. These were behaviors they hadn’t exhibited before the war and the family’s evacuation under duress, she said.

But Marianna said the boys are both much happier now; her kindergartner made several friends and ends every school day with a smile.

Although her family is thriving in the Chicago area, she’s always scared for her loved ones back home.

Marianna used to send them photos of her kids before going to bed.

“Then I’d wake up in the morning to the news that there was a bombing and this civilian building is gone, or this residence or school building got bombed,” she said. “So I had a very difficult time knowing that my children were here, safe and happy, but that everything in Ukraine is being destroyed. Now I made a new routine where in the morning, I check the news. If everything is fine, I send the pictures.”

The Slyvkas are Orthodox Christians and will celebrate Easter on April 16, in accordance with the Julian calendar, which is also observed by millions of Serbians, Russians, Greeks, Romanians and other ethnicities around the world.

The family plans to worship at Holy Protection Parish of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine in the Humboldt Park area.

In Ukraine, the family would have gathered with a large crowd of extended relatives and friends. This year, the celebration will likely only include the five of them.

Per tradition, Marianna intends to dye Easter eggs using the skins of red onions. The custom goes that on Easter, everyone grabs an egg and tries to crack the eggs of other family members, while declaring, “Christ is risen!”

The owner of the last egg to remain unscathed is said to have a special blessing, “so we make sure the kids win,” Marianna said, laughing.

“These traditions were passed down to us from the people that came before us,” she said. “We have a responsibility to pass them down ourselves, seeing as nothing — not even the Soviet Union or anything else — could destroy them. So why would we let them slip away now?”

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Trial

from Page 1

Businessman and former ComEd board member Juan Ochoa, right, exits the Dirksen U.S. Courthouse after testifying in the "ComEd Four" bribery conspiracy trial on Thursday in Chicago. **JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

In Ochoa's case, Madigan's decision to call Gutiérrez first stemmed from a strange political alliance, beginning when the then-congressman endorsed the speaker in his House district primary race in 2016.

In his long-awaited testimony, Ochoa, a businessman and twice-failed political candidate known for leading the agency that runs Navy Pier and McCormick Place, told the jury Thursday he wasn't close to the powerful Democratic speaker.

Ochoa said it was Gutiérrez, a powerful Democrat in his own right, who acted as his main advocate in seeking the board seat, arranging a November 2017 meeting with Madigan at the speaker's ward office to ask for his support.

Ochoa testified his own personal pitch to Madigan was minimal. "I gave a little background of myself, which I think he already knew, and the importance of having Latinos on corporate boards," he told the jury.

Still, Madigan responded "positively" to the request for his support, Ochoa said, telling him and Gutiérrez that "he would be seeing the CEO of Exelon that week."

According to the indictment, that meeting kicked off a year-and-a-half effort by Madigan and his associates to get Ochoa on the board, despite internal pushback at ComEd over his lack of qualifications.

In cross-examination, defense attorneys pointed out there was nothing unusual about politicians making board recommendations, and that Ochoa performed his duties as the $78,000-a-year position required.

Attorney Daniel Craig, who represents Pramaggiore, asked Ochoa point-blank if he offered Madigan a bribe to get the speaker's recommendation for the post, and whether Madigan ever asked for something in return.

"No," Ochoa replied.

"Do you feel like you did the best you could to represent the Latino community on the ComEd board?" Craig asked.

"Given the circumstances, yes." Ochoa said.

Charged in the ComEd Four case are Pramaggiore, McClain, ex-ComEd executive and lobbyist John Hooker and former ComEd contact lobbyist Jay Doherty, the ex-president of the City Club civic group.

In addition to the Ochoa scheme, the indictment alleges the four defendants steered $1.3 million in payments from ComEd to Madigan-approved subcontractors who did little or no work in a bid to win the speaker's influence over the utility's legislative agenda in Springfield.

The indictment also alleged the defendants schemed to hire a clout-heavy law firm run by political operative Victor Reyes and stack the utility's summer internship program with candidates sent from Madigan's 13th Ward.

The four on trial have all pleaded not guilty. Their lawyers have contended the government is trying to turn legal lobbying and job recommendations into a crime.

Madigan and McClain face a separate racketeering indictment that is set for trial next year.

Ochoa had been expected to testify about how his relationship with Madigan grew "toxic" in 2007 after he personally fired a McPier employee who'd previously served as a Madigan legislative staffer in the General Assembly.

After the employee's termination, Ochoa hit a brick wall when it came time to negotiate for House approval of legislation to refinance McPier's high-interest bonds in early 2008. Eventually, Ochoa resigned because he felt the debt refinancing would never pass if he stayed on, according to Ochoa's statements to investigators.

Prosecutors, however, agreed not to ask Ochoa about his prior dispute with Madigan after McClain's attorneys argued that allowing the testimony could inflame the jury.

Instead, Ochoa testified only that he decided to put in for the ComEd board seat after Jesse Ruiz stepped down to run for public office, leaving an open seat that Ochoa said many considered to be reserved for a Latino.

He asked Gutiérrez to reach out to Madigan on his behalf, he said, because Gutiérrez was a well-known and influential Hispanic figure on both the local and national stage. Ochoa said that after the meeting with Madigan, he and Gutiérrez also met with then-Mayor Rahm Emanuel and garnered his support.

What followed was nearly a year of delay and red tape, brought on not only by a reorganization of ComEd's leadership but also issues with Ochoa's background, according to court testimony and records.

Ochoa testified he next heard from Madigan about the appointment in April 2018. "He told me that I would be seated not in the upcoming board meeting but one, I believe, sometime in August," he said.

Meanwhile, no one from ComEd had contacted him about the seat, Ochoa said. When Assistant U.S. Attorney Diane MacArthur asked him if he thought that was unusual, Ochoa responded, "I didn't give it much thought but it was not common in my experience.

On May 2, 2018, Madigan called McClain to discuss the ongoing delay.

"Yes, so, they've got just a little bit of pushback," McClain said on the call, which was played in court after Marquez was done testifying. "I guess (Ochoa) has had some financial problems in the past and stuff like that."

"And Mike, a board member gets paid how much?" Madigan asked. When McClain replied it was $78,000 a year, Madigan laughed and said, "Maybe I'll take the appointment."

Madigan was adamant, though, that they continue to support Ochoa. "But keep me advised as to how much pushback there is," he said.

Two weeks later, Madigan again called McClain to discuss the situation. The speaker said to "go forward with Ochoa" even with his apparent baggage.

"If the only complaint about him is that he suffers from bankruptcy twice, so did Harry Truman," Madigan quipped.

Less than an hour after that conversation, McClain called Pramaggiore to tell her Madigan "would appreciate it if you would keep pressing."

"OK, got it," Pramaggiore replied. "I will keep pressing."

Meanwhile, Pramaggiore was dealing with internal questions at both ComEd and Exelon.

In an August 2018 call played in court Thursday, Pramaggiore sounded anxious when Fidel Marquez, then the senior vice president of ComEd governmental affairs, told her that word was getting around that Ochoa's appointment was a done deal, even though it hadn't been officially announced.

She said it could cause legal problems. But Marquez replied that he'd heard it from then-state Sen. Martin Sandoval, a Chicago Democrat who headed the powerful Transportation Committee.

"I said, 'Who?' " Marquez recounted to Pramaggiore. "I says, 'I'm not aware of that....' He goes, 'Yeah, yeah, ... (Ochoa's) part of that cabal ... the Chuy, Luis and somebody-else cabal."

Pramaggiore then told Marquez that senior Exelon executive William Von Hoene was "going through the roof" over Ochoa's appointment, particularly about accusations that he had a criminal record. "Which he doesn't," Pramaggiore told Marquez.

"I don't have the luxury of being incensed about it," Pramaggiore said. "The right thing for the company is to deal with it. ... We need to move forward."

By early the next year, however, the appointment still had not been made. In February 2019, Ochoa called Madigan's office and left a voice message asking for a meeting with himself and U.S. Rep. Jesús "Chuy" García, a powerful Democratic ally who had recently replaced Gutiérrez in Congress and also previously endorsed Madigan.

It wasn't about the ComEd board seat, Ochoa testified, but to talk about the Latino Leadership Council, a political organization that García, Gutiérrez and he had recently formed, Ochoa said.

That day, Madigan was recorded telling McClain about Ochoa's cryptic message. Apparently assuming it was about the board seat, Madigan instructed McClain to reach out to him.

At Madigan's direction, McClain called Ochoa that afternoon to talk about the situation.

"So I called (Madigan's) office today to see if (Chuy) and I can go see him," Ochoa said on the call played in court. "But it actually has more to do with the Latino Leadership Council organization that we formed, we just wanted to brief him on it."

"Oh, OK, (Madigan) interpreted that you were calling because you were frustrated that this appointment hasn't been made," McClain said.

Ochoa said, "Probably I would have brought it up, but that was not the intention."

ComEd finally made the appointment official two months later.

Ochoa testified Thursday that after his first board meeting in May 2019, he called McClain to thank him and "ask him if he would extend my thanks to Speaker Madigan."

"He told me that it was a group effort and that I should whisper into (ComEd CEO) Anne Pramaggiore's ear because she was very helpful," Ochoa testified.

On May 14, 2019, Ochoa sent an email to Pramaggiore thanking her for her support and suggested getting together for breakfast or lunch. It was the same day FBI agents raided the homes of McClain, Doherty and several others, the first overt action in the far-reaching case.

Asked if he ever had that meal with Pramaggiore, Ochoa testified, "No."

Election

from Page 1

Kara Casten, wife of U.S. Rep. Sean Casten, formed a slate with two other Downers Grove residents, Ken Dawson, left, and Don Renner, to run for the District 99 school board. A slate of conservative candidates was defeated by the group, according to unofficial results. **FOR THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

extremists who were running for school board across the suburbs," Democratic Gov. J.B. Pritzker said Wednesday during an unrelated news conference at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. "I mean, really, the extremists got trounced yesterday."

One of the most heated campaigns was in far west suburban Oswego, where all four members of a right-wing slate of board candidates lost, unofficial results showed. Instead, voters selected a slate called For the Kids that included two incumbents and two newcomers.

The conservative We the Parents slate was backed by Awake Illinois and the New York-based 1776 Project PAC, both of which have financial ties to ultraconservative megadonor Richard Uihlein of the Uline office supplies company.

The We the Parents slate vowed to rid schools of what it deemed "pornographic" materials and sought to inject religious values into their decision making over the seventh-largest school district in Illinois.

"We are so grateful for all of you and we are energized and committed to serve the students, parents and community members," the For the Kids slate said in an election night Facebook post, thanking supporters. "This is your victory as much as it is ours."

Results were similar in northwest suburban Barrington, where a three-person slate backed by Awake Illinois, the 1776 Project and Florida-based Moms for Liberty, as well as a local political action committee funded by former GOP governor candidate Gary Rabine and others, was routed. Voters instead returned two incumbents who previously voted against removing books on LGBTQ subjects from school libraries to the board, along with one newcomer.

In west suburban Downers Grove — one of the first places in Illinois to see a controversy over the presence on school library shelves of the graphic novel and memoir "Gender Queer," whose removal has become a rallying point for the political right — a slate of conservative candidates was defeated by a group that included Kara Casten, an insurance executive and wife of Democratic U.S. Rep. Sean Casten, according to unofficial results.

Awake Illinois also last year criticized a drag-queen bingo program at the Downers Grove Public Library, ultimately leading to anonymous threats and the show's cancellation.

"We know how engaged this community is and some of the things going on did not represent the broader community," Kara Casten said in an interview Thursday. "The election showed that those things don't represent our community — they want inclusion, they want diversity, they want teachers respected and supported."

Casten, who ran with former board member Don Renner and newcomer Ken Dawson, noted her decision to run was inspired in part by the legacy of her daughter Gwen, who died last June from what the DuPage County coroner called a sudden cardiac arrhythmia, just two weeks after graduating from Downers Grove North High School.

"Part of it too for me was my daughter was a real advocate in high school for marginalized groups and people that struggled with speaking up for themselves," Casten said.

The losing slate — Christopher Todd Erickson, Barbara Allen and Dana Cox — was backed by Awake and conservative talk radio station WIND-AM 560, home to right-wing host and political consultant Dan Proft of Naples, Florida.

Proft's Uihlein-funded political action committee, People Who Play By the Rules, which supported failed GOP governor candidate Darren Bailey in November, suffered a defeat in the one school board election where it got directly involved.

The PAC last month reported spending more than $3,700 on mailers supporting three candidates for the board of Lyons Township High School District 204, which serves nearly 4,000 students from La Grange, Western Springs and surrounding towns in suburban Cook County.

Those candidates — David Herndon, Timothy Vlcek and Frank Evans — lost to Timothy Albores, Jill Beda Daniels and Kari Dillon, according to unofficial results.

The latter group was backed by a newly formed political action committee called Support Our Schools, which has ties to Democratic lawyer and lobbyist Heather Wier Vaught, who in the past has represented indicted former Illinois House Speaker Michael Madigan.

Not all results were so decisive, with a mix of candidates winning in some districts and conservatives winning out in others.

In west suburban Wheaton, unofficial results showed voters largely rejected three of four members of a slate backed by Awake Illinois and Jeanne Ives, a conservative former state representative.

But as of Thursday, slate member Amanda "Amy" Erkenswick, who attended an Awake Illinois candidate training and has been a repeat guest on WIND talk shows, held a narrow three-vote lead over Erik Hjerpe, who was among a group of candidates endorsed by the local teachers union, for the third of three available four-year seats on the board of Community Unit School District 200.

Once all the ballots are counted, "I hope we can focus on the real issues in our district," said Julie Kulovits, who was also backed by the teachers union.

In the south suburbs, two of three members of the conservative We the Parents Illinois slate, whose goals included "protecting the classroom from woke and political ideology," appeared poised to claim seats on the board of Lockport Township High School District 205, according to unofficial results.

"I look forward to working with the school board to provide students ample opportunity for their journeys," Sandra Chimon Rogers, who along with slate mate Martin Boersma and incumbent Veronica Tylka-Shaw appeared to top the eight-person field, told the Daily Southtown on Tuesday.

In McHenry County, conservative candidates Laura Murray, Andrew Bittman, Gina Galliger and Michael Thompson, who were endorsed by Awake Illinois and WIND, will now represent a conservative majority on the board in Huntley Community School District 158, according to unofficial results.

"It's fair to say that over the years, we've seen a slow degradation in the quality of education coming out of District 158," Thompson said Thursday, citing lower standardized tests scores and a lack of responsiveness from the current board.

While Awake Illinois initially listed the Huntley group among the roughly 100 candidates it endorsed late last week, Thompson said he and his fellow candidates asked the polarizing Naperville-based organization to take them off the list because they didn't want to split the community.

"I think any time a candidates' platform aligns with another organization, they're going to get the thumbs-up from them, and Awake Illinois is a group that agrees with a lot of the things that we stood for," he said.

The group also was backed by a newly formed PAC called McHenry County Citizens for Lower Taxes, which was funded with $15,000 from the campaign fund of unsuccessful GOP congressional candidate Catalina Lauf of Woodstock. But Thompson said it was hard work, not financial backing, that won the race.

"Our success was a result of several years of attending and speaking up at board meetings and meeting with other taxpayers in our district," he said.

William Geheren, who's been on the board of the nine-school district for 12 years and lost his reelection bid, said he's "extremely concerned" about the future of the district.

"I have no idea what their game plan is other than they want to come in and push their political agenda, which this job is not supposed to be about," Geheren said. "I think any time a candidates' platform aligns with another organization, they're going to get the thumbs up from them, and Awake Illinois is a group that agrees with a lot of the things that we stood for," he said.

Chicago Tribune's Rick Pearson and Jeremy Gorner contributed.

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EDITORIALS

Federal Trade Commission Chair Lina Khan testifies during a House Appropriations Subcommittee hearing in Washington on May 18, 2022. **TOM WILLIAMS/CQ-ROLL CALL**

When it comes to noncompetes, Ill. shows the way for a federal agency captured by the left

The Federal Trade Commission is on track to ban noncompete agreements. Considering how these contracts have been used to prevent hairdressers and cashiers from finding better jobs, you might think it's about time.

Noncompetes stop employees from moving to rival businesses, and their proliferation among everyday working folks has become a scandal. But banning them for every employee across the country, including those with access to pivotal proprietary information that could seriously harm a current employer, is certain to create new problems.

For a smart compromise, look no further than Illinois. The state's policy on noncompetes is a model that would work better for the nation than the FTC's proposed blanket ban. We don't get to say it very often, but Illinois is ahead of the pack on this one.

The "Illinois Compromise," as it's known, came about in 2021, a few years after then-Attorney General Lisa Madigan brought a well-deserved enforcement action against Check Into Cash, a payday lender with stores in Illinois.

The Tennessee-based company required all employees, including those making less than $13 an hour, to sign highly restrictive noncompetes before starting their jobs. If they left the company, those modestly compensated employees were forbidden for a full year from working at any other business involved in consumer lending or transmitting money.

The contracts were written so broadly they covered everything from auto dealerships to Western Union and even the U.S. Postal Service. They also covered a vast geography, barring former employees from working anywhere within 15 miles of the chain's hundreds of locations across more than two-dozen states.

Check Into Cash was an especially abusive example of a practice that has hurt a vulnerable part of the workforce. Because of the contracts, companies can practically own their workers, who would then face greatly diminished prospects if they decide to leave. The FTC has rightly identified these one-sided deals involving low-paid workers as anti-competitive restraints on trade that suppress job mobility and wages.

In Illinois, the Check Into Cash case inspired legislation that was surprisingly fair-minded. Rather than ban noncompetes, as worker advocates initially wanted, Illinois lawmakers balanced the concerns of employers as well as employees to specifically protect workers earning $75,000 a year or less.

For those earning more, the Illinois law allows noncompetes to be enforced only if the employees get paid something for having signed them, and only if employers have legitimate business interests needing protection. Those are vague standards, for sure, but happily they allow for flexibility that's missing in the FTC proposal.

For some businesses, there's no good substitute for these contracts. Consider the head trader at a hedge fund, or the lead software engineer at a tech startup, or other key employees who could move to a competitor and use their knowledge to harm their previous employers.

The FTC would still allow confidentiality agreements and contracts forbidding the disclosure of trade secrets (as does the Illinois law). But those alone aren't enough to protect against insiders aware of every trading position or line of code from crossing the street and giving an unfair advantage to their new companies.

In some cases, getting rid of noncompetes would set up business owners and investors to be cheated out of what rightly belongs to them, hurting innovative entrepreneurs and discouraging innovation and competition in the long run.

So far, that prospect has not deterred the FTC and its current chair, progressive hero Lina Khan. The GOP and business groups such as the U.S. Chamber of Commerce maintain her agency lacks the authority to override the law on noncompetes in Illinois and other states — at least not without approval from a GOP-controlled Congress unlikely to give it.

Christine Wilson, who was the only Republican on the commission, spent months publicly attacking the agency's efforts to check corporate power. She resigned March 31 because of what she described as Khan's "defiance of legal precedence and her abuse of power to achieve desired outcomes."

In March, Khan's agency extended the public comment period for its proposed rule by a month, until April 19, signaling not that Khan has changed her mind, but that comments keep pouring in. The stakes are high for this one.

If a state as blue as Illinois can come up with a bipartisan compromise on this issue — the General Assembly approved the measure unanimously — then even an agency as far to the left as the current FTC can do the same.

Drop the proposal for a total ban and work out a deal that protects the prospects of rank-and-file employees but also respects the interests of companies that want to compete for business without the risk of a turncoat insider hijacking their secret sauce.

ABOUT THE DEMOCRACY SUMMIT

The White House co-hosted its second Summit for Democracy last week. Attendance was mostly virtual. Kind of like democracy itself for those in authoritarian nations.

And even for some living in ostensible democracies.

In India, the world's largest democracy, a small-minded majority recently expelled Rahul Gandhi from Parliament. The top challenger to Prime Minister Narendra Modi was ousted because of a criminal defamation conviction for a line in a 2019 campaign speech.

In Israel, it took unprecedented protests to pause Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's push to legislatively change the country's justice system, and thus its democracy ...

Richard Gowan, U.N. director for the International Crisis Group, told an editorial writer that in the context of the Ukrainian war China is projecting itself to the developing world as a "source of stability in the international system." These nations don't necessarily "make a concrete political bloc," Gowan said, but they've been relatively tepid in denouncing Russia.

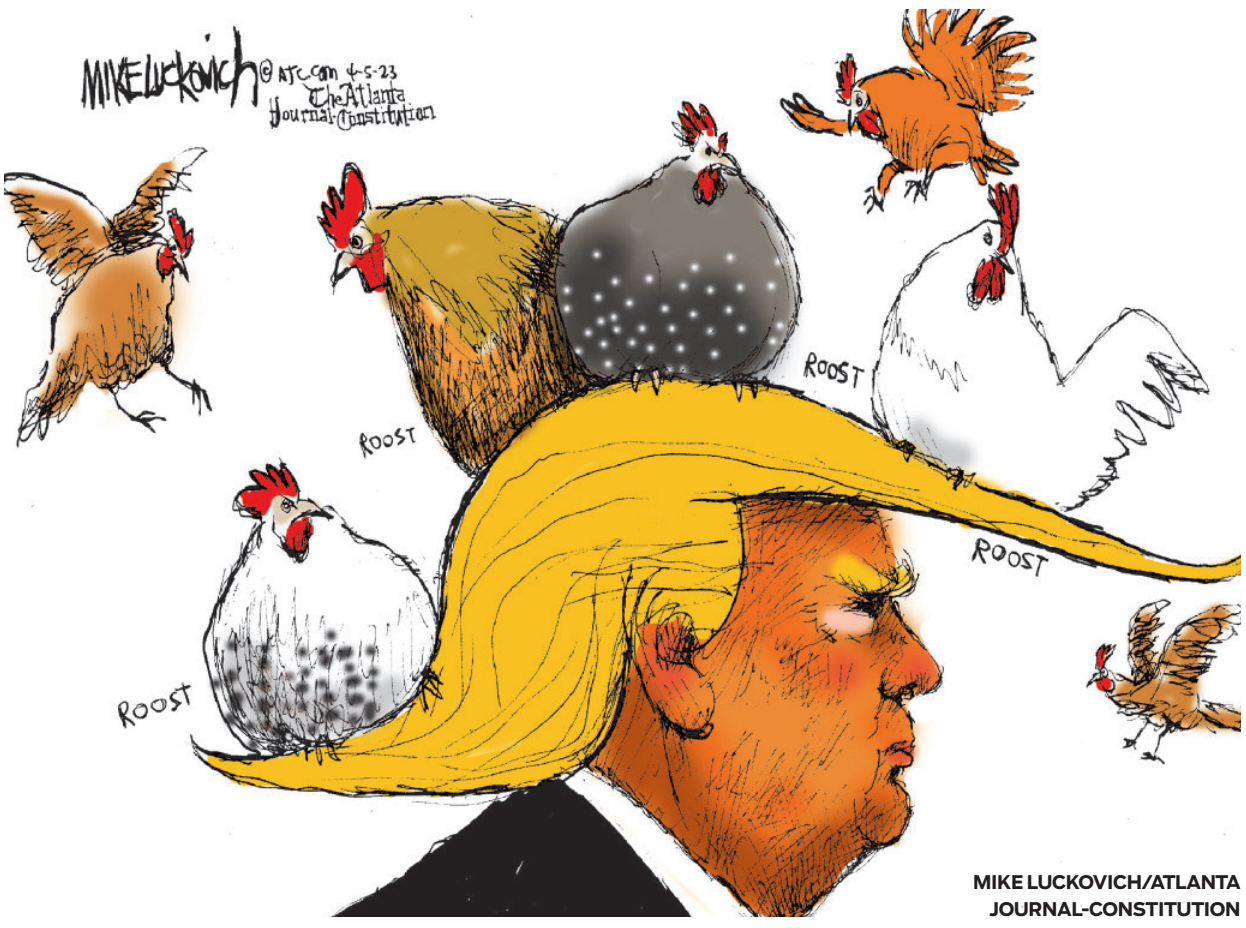
"Although there is a lot of sympathy for the Ukrainians, many members of the U.N. are hedging and are trying to avoid throwing their lot in completely with the West or with Russia," Gowan said, adding that the consistent message is, "we don't want to get sucked into a grand geopolitical context. We want this crisis to pass."

... President Joe Biden is right that the U.S. should be a beacon of democracy. But Washington should also use the sovereignty argument more forcefully.

"Sovereignty and territorial integrity are the base rock of the international system," Gowan said. And for many nations, "that is actually more important than the sort of regime type."

Star Tribune Editorial Board

EDITORIAL CARTOON



MIKE LUCKOVICH/ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION

OPINION

JUDGE JANET PROTASIEWICZ
WISCONSIN SUPREME COURT
VOTE APRIL 4 | JANETFORJUSTICE.COM
WOMEN BELONG IN ALL PLACES WHERE DECISIONS ARE

Wisconsin Supreme Court Justices, from left, Jill Karofsky, Rebecca Dallet and Ann Walsh Bradley, right, celebrate with Janet Protasiewicz, second from right, after she defeated conservative candidate Dan Kelly on Tuesday. **JAMIE KELTER DAVIS/THE NEW YORK TIMES**

Wisconsin's Supreme Court election should never have happened

Adam Carrington

On Tuesday, Janet Protasiewicz defeated Dan Kelly for a seat on Wisconsin's Supreme Court. At $42 million, it was the most expensive state Supreme Court race in our nation's history. The outcome swings the Wisconsin court's majority away from a textualism and originalist orientation and toward more purpose-driven or evolving readings of the law. It's being described as a victory for progressives, since it's the first time their preferred justices will have the majority since 2008 — just in time to address likely cases on abortion and gerrymandering. The election exposes continued electoral woes for the GOP, especially on the abortion issue.

Another broader problem exists, however. The election never should have happened. Not because of the outcome, which of course conservatives are lamenting. We shouldn't make arguments about how we select our officials merely based on whether it will get our people in office here and now. Nor should the election not have occurred because it violated the U.S. Constitution. States may select their judges as they see fit. But they should not pick their judges through popular elections.

If states scuttled judicial elections, they would have the Constitution's own practice for support. That document doesn't allow for a popular vote to select any federal judges. Instead, the president nominates and the Senate confirms all district, circuit and Supreme Court judges. The Founders constructed federal judicial selection this way for good reason.

Our republic combines two principles of rule. The first concerns *who* rules — the people. The second pertains to *how* the people rule — through law. The Founders could've constructed a system in which the laws rule apart from, even contrary to, the people. Such a system would have violated our commitment to human equality and the consequent need for the consent of the governed.

The Founders also could've built a government in which the people ruled apart from law — by some system of decrees. Yet to make government effective and safe, we need these distinct principles of both popular rule and the rule of law. Rule only by law ends up in a systematized tyranny of elites. Rule by the people without law dives quickly into the tyranny of the majority and, eventually, anarchy.

With our system of separation of powers, all branches play some part in upholding the rule by the people and the rule of law. But they don't uphold these two rules to the same degree or in the same manner. Congress and the presidency emphasize rule by the people. They both must follow the laws, constitutional and statutory, especially with the executive power's role as law enforcement.

But they also make laws, with Congress writing and passing, as well as the president signing or vetoing bills. And their ultimate power to legislate comes from the fact they are elected by the people: Laws passed by these two branches make the people's will into binding rules.

The judiciary's role places greater primacy on the rule of law. Judges don't create law. They use the existing law as the standard by which to decide disputes. They have no part in making law and are to exercise, as Alexander Hamilton said in Federalist No. 78, "force nor will" but "merely judgment." But in carrying out the will of the people by law, the judiciary affects how the people rule. The judiciary forces the people to only reward and punish, prescribe and proscribe, according to their own laws. That's a good thing. The legislative process itself was set up to accentuate deliberation and care — not knee-jerk impulses. (Imagine laws made via Twitter.)

How can the judiciary effectively keep the people ruling according to their own laws? The Founders thought judges needed distance, if not outright independence, from any manifestation of popular will other than written constitutions and statutes. Along with longer tenures, executive nomination and legislative consent created some of that distance. So judicial elections undermine all of this. They tempt judges to promise and to decide in line with the people's current opinion, even if such things run contrary to the written law. Doing so undermines the rule of law and thus invites the problems that accompany lawless rule by the people.

We can see these problems playing out in the Wisconsin race. Protasiewicz ran on an explicitly political platform. She made clear her positions on abortion and the state's supposed gerrymandered election maps. Her opponent, Kelly, was less specific, but his own caustic candidacy was bolstered in its deficiencies by participating in the electoral process.

The result in Wisconsin was a bad one for the state and for the country. Not just because all indications are that Protasiewicz will be misguided and harmful in how she interprets and applies the law, but because the very process of her selection undermines the judiciary's role in upholding the rule of law.

Yes, we need elections for the legislative and executive branches — but leave the judges out of it.

Adam Carrington is an associate professor of politics at Hillsdale College in Michigan.

Indictment of Trump the wrong charges at the wrong time

By Tyler Michals

With significant fanfare, Donald Trump was arraigned Tuesday in a New York City courtroom on charges relating to hush money payments made to former porn star Stormy Daniels. The former president is, of course, no stranger to controversy, which has been his calling card since he premiered on the political stage circa 2015. He now has the ignominious distinction not only of being the first president to be impeached twice, but also of becoming the first president to be indicted on criminal charges.

The latter distinction comes with an asterisk. In 1974, Richard Nixon was pardoned by his successor, President Gerald Ford, for his role in the Watergate scandal before any charges were brought. The decision to pardon Nixon was not a popular one at the time. Democratic U.S. Sen. Ted Kennedy, by then a presidential aspirant, decried the pardon in no uncertain terms.

Yet in 2001, Ford was awarded the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award for his pardon of Nixon. Speaking at the event, Sen. Kennedy had reconsidered his opinion of the pardon: "I was one of those who spoke out against (the pardon) then. But time has a way of clarifying past events, and now we see that President Ford was right. His courage and dedication to our country made it possible for us to begin the process of healing and put the tragedy of Watergate behind us."

Today, the question facing the country is a similar one, although we are left to react without the benefit of hindsight. We start with the uncontested proposition that no one is above the law, not even a former president. The two sides are divided, however, on whether the threshold for bringing charges against a former president should be higher, lest it usher in an era of tit-for-tat of political prosecutions based on trivial, but technical, offenses.

Former President Donald Trump arrives to speak at his Mar-a-Lago estate Tuesday in Palm Beach, Florida, hours after being arraigned in New York City. **REBECCA BLACKWELL/AP**

A crime is a crime, of course, but it's impossible to ignore that prosecutors have considerable discretion in what charges get filed, or whether to bring charges at all. In Trump's case, it will be a tough sell convincing the public that politics played no role in the charging decision. The reality is that a former president stands charged with nearly three dozen felony counts based on allegations that, though unseemly, most people wouldn't have assumed were crimes.

As it is, some commentators have questioned whether the allegations constitute a crime at all.

Recent history indicates that bringing weak charges against Trump is not an effective way of neutralizing his appeal. For example, if you were asked what Trump was impeached for the first time in 2019, there are a number of things that could spring to mind, from Russia-gate to Jan. 6. (The latter resulted in his second impeachment.) In fact, it stemmed from a phone call between Trump and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy.

During the "perfect" phone call, as Trump described it, the former president attempted to cajole Zelenskyy — who was not yet a household name — to investigate Joe Biden and his family in relation to their business dealings within the country. The House of Representatives subsequently voted to impeach Trump, but his trial foundered in the Senate, where he was acquitted. Trump claimed vindication, and his approval ratings were buoyed, even if temporarily.

This provides lessons for the future. First, liberals should be wary of using flimsy pretexts to make historic decisions, such as charging a former president criminally. How many Americans of a neutral political persuasion are likely to be convinced that this norm should be broken over a hush money payment allegedly made to a woman more than five years ago, especially when Biden's Department of Justice declined to pursue similar charges?

Besides, there are other criminal investigations that appear far more damning politically to the former president. For instance, charges relating to election interference in Georgia, or the investigation into Trump's conduct on Jan. 6, involve events that continue to rattle around in the public mind and are much more likely to resonate with voters.

The political fallout from all of this is an open question. In a prior age, a criminal indictment would have put the kibosh on a politician's presidential ambitions. No longer. Trump has proved adept at portraying himself as the victim of political persecution. He has denounced nearly all attempts to investigate his conduct as "witch hunts." After the FBI raided Trump's Mar-a-Lago home last summer, several commentators wondered aloud whether the government's zealousness would result in Trump's reelection.

Trump's legal team has been on a media blitz in an attempt at staying ahead of the news cycle. Since the indictments were announced last week, Trump has reportedly raised more than $7 million toward his reelection bid. It's far from a given that Trump will secure the Republican nomination for president in 2024, but his job is made easier so long as he can turn alleged political victimization into fuel for his campaign.

Time will tell if Trump has, yet again, been rescued by his political adversaries.

Tyler Michals is an attorney in Chicago.

OPINION

Israeli military veterans wave national flags along a highway near Netanya during a rally against the government's judicial reform bill on March 28. **JACK GUEZ/GETTY-AFP**

Not too late to get honest about Israel

By Elizabeth Shackelford

The United States and Israel have had a close and special relationship for more than 75 years, grounded in Israel's unique position as the only democracy in the Middle East and a stable partner in a volatile region.

But what Israel brings to the deal now is harder to see day by day. The long and increasingly extreme tenure of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is starting to seriously test its limits.

For our part, the United States delivers for Israel by preventing the UN Security Council from condemning Israel's policies, and by providing nearly $4 billion to Israel annually in military assistance. Israel has been the largest recipient of U.S. foreign assistance since 1948, receiving $158 billion total (in current dollars) since that time. U.S. politicians on both sides of the aisle have vigorously defended this partnership as unbreakable and historic.

But many of Israel's actions over the years should have garnered greater scrutiny from America. For decades, Israel has occupied the West Bank and Gaza and institutionalized discrimination against the Palestinian people, in the name of security. At various times those security concerns have felt more justified than others, but it has never earned more than tepid rebuke from the United States.

More recently, Israel has put to rest any illusions of seeking a peaceful resolution to the Palestinian question by doubling down on expanding Israeli settlements within the occupied territories. This has been rightfully called out as a flagrant violation of international law, but failed to dim U.S. support for the Jewish state.

Netanyahu's confidence in continued U.S. support was evident during the Obama administration, when he didn't hesitate to enter the U.S. political fray by taking his case against President Barack Obama's nuclear deal with Iran directly to Congress. Despite this clear embarrassment, the administration continued its robust military and political support.

But what's happening today is different, for Israel and possibly for the U.S.-Israeli relationship too.

Netanyahu's ruling coalition, the most religiously conservative and extreme in the country's history, introduced legislation to severely curb the independence of the judiciary, giving a political committee a veto on judicial acts. Widely believed to be an effort to insulate Netanyahu from his own legal troubles, the move infuriated the Israeli public, which took to the streets.

Supporting the Israeli government now means going against the clear will of the Israeli people.

Protests continued for weeks, and a strike closed Israel's embassies around the world and grounded international flights. Things really heated up when military reservists joined in, prompting the defense minister to call on Netanyahu to pause the reforms in the name of national security. When Netanyahu fired the minister in response, he fueled even bigger protests from a population that reveres its military.

Then Netanyahu blinked.

After all, in countries where an authoritarian wannabe cannot call on the security services to do his bidding, people power still packs a punch. A political leader cannot take on the whole country if the army isn't with him, and Israel's army most certainly was not.

Netanyahu's response was only to pause the reforms though until after the Passover recess, so this threat to Israel's democracy remains, and public protests continue.

Will Netanyahu learn from his overreach and rein in the overtness of his authoritarian tendencies? Or has he passed the point of no return with the outrageous alliance he's made with Israel's extreme right? And how will the United States respond if it's the latter?

Only time will tell if this is a turning point for Israel or merely a speed bump on the way to autocracy. It's an ominous sign though that Netanyahu secured the pause in the judicial overhaul by agreeing to the formation of a civil "national guard" under the control of National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir, a far-right extremist who's been convicted of supporting a terrorist organization and incitement to racism.

Perhaps Netanyahu's solution to his people power problem is to create a private army that will bend to his (or his coalition's) will.

Having squandered years of potential influence on Israel's direction by offering unconditional support, the United States may have little sway over what comes next. But it can withdraw or severely curtail its support if Israel continues down the authoritarian path.

We've wasted influence before on dictatorial regimes that grow strong in part from our generous support but ultimately refuse to align with us in return. Look no further than Saudi Arabia's latest oil production cut to understand the limits of influence such partnerships provide. Staying the course now only makes us complicit in Netanyahu's bad acts.

President Joe Biden has made much of the global contest between democracies and autocracies, calling the defense of democracy the defining challenge of our time. He has called on democracies to work together to thwart the growth of autocracies worldwide. Netanyahu may soon give him an opportunity to prove that he means it.

Elizabeth Shackelford is a senior fellow on U.S. foreign policy with the Chicago Council on Global Affairs. She was previously a U.S. diplomat and is the author of "The Dissent Channel: American Diplomacy in a Dishonest Age."

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Fear of school shootings

While I was driving my freshman daughter to school recently, she watched as a school bus stopped at railroad tracks, opened its doors so the driver could listen and look for a train, and then proceeded across the tracks. "School buses have to do that, right? They made it a law right after that horrible accident that killed students?" I responded in the affirmative. "And after 9-11, they immediately passed a bunch of laws to make the country safer." Again, I responded in the affirmative.

She continued, "Yet school after school gets shot up, and nothing gets done. No laws get passed." I could only sigh and agree. She then spent the rest of the drive telling me what she'd do and how'd she escape if the ever more common unthinkable happened at her school.

The Nashville, Tennessee, shooting has faded from the news, but it, like all school shootings, is ever present in the minds of our students.

Prayers without action are an insult to the victims and make a mockery of God.

— Marilyn Cosentino, Chicago

A scare in Highland Park

Tuesday was a bad day. The middle school that I teach at is a polling place. My classroom is directly next to the entrance. At 5:15 a.m., I woke up with a start, worried about a possible shooting. In my head, I made a plan. The windows would be covered, and the doors would remain locked. I would remain vigilant. I would put myself in front of any threat to my students.

Then came the news of a student carrying a gun at Highland Park High School. Schools put on lockdown. Polling places put on lockdown.

For me, and I am sure many others, it triggered memories of the July Fourth mass shooting. I was in a dark place.

Tuesday was a bad day.

— Linda Peritz, Highland Park

Connecting the dots

I have a 5-year-old granddaughter who is happy, creative and as gentle a human being as I have ever known. She already has learned the basics of reading and math and will be starting kindergarten in the fall. However, it is sickening to think that one of the first lessons she will be taught is an active shooter drill. This is the new, insane American norm. As we endure yet another mass school shooting, the Republicans have fallen back on their mantra that mass shootings are not a "gun problem" but a "mental health issue." If that is their rationale, then don't allow those with mental health issues to be allowed to buy a gun or, in the case of Nashville, Tennessee, seven guns. Owning guns is not a sacred, irrevocable "right." Rights can be forfeited. You can lose your "right" to drive a car if you are not physically or mentally able to or convicted of drunken driving. You lose the "right" to vote if you commit a felony.

How difficult is it for Republicans not to connect the dots when it comes to guns? Does no one see the hypocrisy when U.S. Rep. Andy Ogles, whose district includes the site of the Nashville shooting, to somehow deem it proper to send out a Christmas card, celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ, the prince of peace, of Ogles and his family, including his children, posing with assault-style weapons?

Republicans are anti-abortion, but it is obvious that their concept of protecting that child obviously ends at birth. Their hypocrisy has gone beyond any semblance of common sense and human decency.

— Tom Smoucha, Arlington Heights

Care for the survivors

In the aftermath of school shootings, we need to shift our focus to survivors and policies that address the ongoing mental health needs of survivors, witnesses and the families of victims. With the shooting in Nashville, Tennessee, there have been at least 13 school shootings in the country since the beginning of 2023. After school shootings occur, the discourse focuses on interpretations of the Second Amendment and/or explanations for why an individual committed the act. Often overshadowed are stories of the struggles that survivors and witnesses of the event face in the aftermath. A school shooting can have long-term negative effects on the mental health outcomes of survivors. For children and adolescent survivors, there is an increased risk for developing depressive and anxiety disorders and an increased suicide risk. Other risks linked to being directly affected by a school shooting include a greater likelihood of debilitating post-traumatic stress symptoms and psychiatric disorders.

Current recommendations regarding school shootings focus on expanding the availability of mental health resources immediately following an event. I'd like to take it a step further. Considering the possibility of profound negative effects throughout an affected person's life span, there needs to be a supportive mechanism in place to address the needs of those affected. A policy that supports free access to mental health services on an ongoing basis for survivors and victims' families would be a great start to filling this need. At a minimum, survivors and victims' families would have access to a range of evidence-based psychotherapies that can help with processing the event in the short and long term.

There are questions, I'm sure: *Who will pay for this? How long is "ongoing"? Who will regulate service provision?* I do not have all the answers. But I do know that the people who have to pick up the pieces after a shooting are deserving of more attention.

It is my hope that by starting the conversation, someone who has some of the answers will listen.

— Taemesha Tate, graduate student, University of Illinois

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Valpo buys former inn

School's $2.2M purchase amid controversy over artwork sale

By Amy Lavalley
Post-Tribune

Valparaiso University purchased The Market, formerly Strongbow Inn, at 2405 U.S. 30, from Luke Land LLC on March 9 for $2.2 million, according to documents provided by Porter County officials. **AMY LAVALLEY/POST-TRIBUNE**

As controversy swirled on the Valparaiso University campus weeks after President Jose Padilla announced the private school was considering selling three cornerstone pieces from the Brauer Museum of Art to fund dorm renovations for first-year students, the university purchased The Market, formerly Strongbow Inn, for $2.2 million, according to Porter County records.

The sale, between Luke Land LLC, part of Luke Oil, and the Lutheran University Association Inc., closed on March 9, according to a deed on file with the Porter County Recorder's Office. A sales disclosure form provided by the Porter County Assessor's Office shows the sale price was $2.2 million for the property at 2405 U.S. 30.

The form makes no mention of the property's planned use — according to Indiana Code cited on the form, that information is confidential — but under the portion of the form about finance data, boxes were checked "no" for whether the seller was financing the sale and whether there is a mortgage loan.

The university's endowment purchased the land, according to a Tuesday email from Michael Fenton, the university's spokesperson.

"The endowment funds being used for said purchase are restricted, as is the majority of the funding in the endowment. Using that money for other projects, including the proposed residence hall renovations, would not have been an option," he said.

"This purchase is part of the overarching investment strategy and is expected to provide a positive cash return. As with any asset held for investment, the purpose is to increase the value of the endowment in the long-term."

Word on campus about the building purchase began to spread in early March during a Faculty Senate meeting.

"There's been nothing public about the land use," said John Ruff, a senior research professor who has been keeping tabs on the sale of the artwork, including a Georgia O'Keeffe painting that has been exhibited on loan at art museums across the globe, and has been one of several outspoken critics of the plan.

Ruff has been deeply involved with the museum over the years and his wife, Gloria, was its previous registrar and associate curator.

In a Feb. 8 letter to campus, Padilla said university officials would consider "assets and resources that are not core or critical to our educational mission and strategic plan," and reallocate them to support the university's new strategic plan.

"In this instance, we intend to pay for the much-needed dorm renovations by using the proceeds from the sale of select paintings from the campus art museum," Padilla said, going on to note that the university's board "granted me the authority to sell the paintings at its October 2022 meeting."

The paintings, which Padilla did not name in the letter, include O'Keeffe's "Rust Red Hills," Frederic E. Church's "Mountain Landscape" and "The Silver Vale and the Golden Gate" by Childe Hassam.

"At this time we are still completing due diligence for the proposed sale of the artwork and have no further updates," Fenton said in his Tuesday email.

Collectively, the paintings are worth several million dollars; Fenton has said in a previous email that the projected cost of renovating Brandt Hall and Wehrenberg Hall is approximately $8 million.

Two of the three paintings were purchased through a restrictive trust agreement that states that the proceeds from the sale of those pieces is to be reinvested back into the museum's collection.

Several people have said that selling the works to fund dorm renovations would be a violation of that agreement and could hamper the university's ability to solicit restricted gifts in the future.

"I don't know that there's anywhere in the strategic plan for buying more property," he said, adding the university already has buildings it can't maintain, such as the Art-Psychology Building that burned down on April 29.

According to the Porter County Assessor's Office website, The Market property had an assessed value of $2,201,100 as of April 2022. Luke Land LLC purchased the property from Russ and Nancy Adams, the former owners of Strongbow Inn, in 2013 for $1.3 million.

Strongbow Inn closed in March 2015 after more than seven decades in business.

The prospect of selling the artwork to fund dorm renovations has garnered national news coverage and generated a student march to Padilla's office in February to protest the sale, as well as an online petition.

Valparaiso Mayor Matt Murphy has issued a statement in support of Padilla and the decision, but a majority of the Faculty Senate has condemned the move and said so in a letter to the president.

Additionally, major art museum associations have banded together and issued a statement that if the sale goes forward, the Brauer Museum could face censure or sanctions, which would hamper its ability to loan out pieces in its collection, among other measures.

Dick Brauer, the museum's founding director and its namesake, has threatened to remove his name from the facility if the sale goes forward.

alavalley
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Chicago Daily Tribune

ON APRIL 7 ...

In 1862 Union forces led by Gen. Ulysses S. Grant defeated the Confederates at the Battle of Shiloh in Tennessee.

In 1927 an audience in New York saw an image of Commerce Secretary Herbert Hoover in the first successful long-distance demonstration of television.

In 1945, during World War II, American planes intercepted a Japanese fleet that was headed for Okinawa on a suicide mission.

In 1948 the World Health Organization was founded.

In 1949 the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical "South Pacific" opened on Broadway.

In 1953 the U.N. General Assembly elected Dag Hammarskjold of Sweden to be secretary general.

In 1957 the last of New York's electric trolleys completed its final run from Queens to Manhattan.

In 1964 IBM introduced its innovative System/360, the company's first line of compatible mainframe computers that gave customers the option of upgrading from lower-cost models to more powerful, expensive ones.

In 1966 the United States recovered a hydrogen bomb it had lost off the coast of Spain.

In 1969 the Supreme Court unanimously struck down laws prohibiting private possession of obscene material.

In 1976 China's leadership deposed Deputy Prime Minister Deng Xiaoping and appointed Hua Kuo-feng prime minister and first deputy chairman of the Communist Party.

In 1983 space shuttle astronauts Story Musgrave and Don Peterson took the first U.S. space walk in almost a decade as they worked in the open cargo bay of Challenger for nearly four hours.

In 1987 Harold Washington won a second mayoral term handily, making him the first Chicago mayor since the late Richard J. Daley to win re-election.

In 1990 a display of Robert Mapplethorpe photographs opened at Cincinnati's Contemporary Arts Center, the same day the center and its director were indicted on obscenity charges. (Both were acquitted.)

In 1994 civil war erupted in Rwanda, a day after a mysterious plane crash claimed the lives of the presidents of Rwanda and Burundi. In the months that followed, hundreds of thousands of minority Tutsi and Hutu intellectuals were slaughtered.

In 1999 NATO stepped up its airstrikes in Yugoslavia after rejecting President Slobodan Milosevic's cease-fire declaration. Yugoslav authorities, meanwhile, closed the main exit route where a quarter-million ethnic Albanians had fled Kosovo.

In 2001 NASA's Mars Odyssey spacecraft took off on a 6-month, 286 million-mile journey to the Red Planet.

In 2004 Mounir el Motassadeq, the only Sept. 11 suspect ever convicted, was freed after a Hamburg, Germany, court ruled that the evidence was too weak to hold him pending a retrial.

On April 7, 2015, Emanuel won re-election. Eight days later, the City Council approved a $5 million settlement with McDonald's family before a lawsuit had been filed.

Lottery numbers

For yesterday's numbers and recent drawings, go to chicagotribune.com/lottery or use your mobile device to scan the code above.

Chicago Tribune Death Notices
Chicago Tribune extends our condolences to the families and loved ones of those who have passed.
chicagotribune.com/deathnotice

Death Notices

Bagnuolo, Barbara A.

Barbara A. Bagnuolo, nee Mika, age 82. Beloved wife of Peter Michael Bagnuolo; dear mother of Suzanne (Steve) Lothary; loving grandmother of Olivia Lothary, Hannah Lothary, and Karen Lothary; devoted daughter of the late Helen (nee Kloc) and Stanley Felix Mika; fond sister of Joan Marie (William) Mika-Savas and Diane (the late Javad) Mika-Vajed. Family and friends will meet on Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at Old St. Patrick's Church, 700 W. Adams St., Chicago, IL 60661 for a 9:00 a.m. Visitation followed by a 10:30 a.m. Funeral Mass. Paid parking is available at 625 W. Adams St., (entrance is on Desplaines St. - 1/2 block South of the Church). In lieu of flowers, donations in Barbara's memory to Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital, www.luriechildrens.org, 312-227-7500. For guestbook and further information www.michalikfuneralhome.com or 312-421-0936.

Michalik Funeral Home
Burial and Cremation Services

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Blessing, Jonathan David

With great sorrow, we share the news that Jonathan David Blessing died on April 1, 2023. He was 45.

Jonathan was a beloved husband, an adored and adoring father, a dearly loved son, a big-hearted brother and a loyal friend.

Jon left deep impressions on the hearts of the people in his life, from his extended family to his many friends. They remember the brightness of his eyes, his easy laughter, his magnetic and charismatic presence, and his immensely lovable spirit. He was a favorite, a best friend many times over.

He is survived by his wife, Bridget Byron; sons, Johnny and Bodhi; parents, David and Betsey; sisters, Sarah, Amy and Anna; and many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews.

There will be a visitation on Tuesday, April 11, 10:00am to noon, and a service at 1:00pm, at St. Chrysostom's Episcopal Church, 1424 N. Dearborn St., Chicago. An education fund has been established for Johnny and Bodhi: gofund.me/c3744410

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Conlin, Grace W. 'Amazing Grace'

Grace W. "Amazing Grace" Conlin, age 96, a Naperville, IL resident since 1967, passed away on Saturday, April 1, 2023 at St. Patrick's Residence in Naperville. She was born September 6, 1926 in Baltimore, MD.

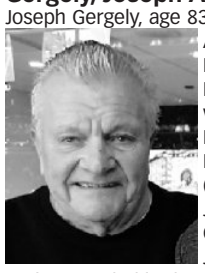
Arrangements by Friedrich-Jones Funeral Home & Cremation Services, 44 S. Mill Street, Naperville, IL 60540.

For service times and a complete obituary, please visit www.friedrich-jones.com or call (630) 355-0213 for more information.

Friedrich Jones
Funeral Homes & Cremation Services

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Gergely, Joseph A.



Joseph Gergely, age 83, passed away peacefully on April 3, 2023 at Franciscan Health in Olympia Fields.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 57 years, Barbara (nee Mahlandt) Gergely; children, Delon (Keith) Schuldt, Joseph (Lynn) Gergely; grandchildren, Joseph Gergely, and Tiffani Gergely; and his twin sister Joyce (Late Jack) Renbrook.

He is preceded in death by his parents, George and Josephine Gergely; and his brother Richard "Dick" Gergely.

Joseph, a former resident of Chicago, Riverdale, and New Lenox, was a Vietnam Veteran and proudly served as a Riverdale Reserve Police Officer. He worked over 30 years at Exelon (formally ComEd) where he was a lineman, manager of transportation garage and electrician until he retired in 1994. He was a handy man that was able to fix virtually anything. He had a slogan, "Made by man, fixed by Joe." He was an avid golfer and a devoted Blackhawks fan. He and his wife Barbara loved to go out dancing when they could, and were very successful at it, bringing home many trophies over the years. Overall, Joe loved his family, friends, great food, good drinks and lending a helping hand. He was an incredibly devoted husband and an amazing father. In his most recent years, he was his grandchildren's greatest cheerleader and supporter. He loved his family deeply, and Joe will be missed by all that knew him.

Services for Joe will be held on Saturday, April 8, 2023 at **Kurtz Memorial Chapel**, 65 Old Frankfort Way, in Frankfort from 12pm until the time of the funeral service at 4pm. Joe will be laid to rest at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery at a later date.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Kelly, Joshua J. 'Josh'

Joshua J. "Josh" Kelly, Age 38, Safely Home on April 4, 2023. Beloved son of Meg (nee Vail) and the late Michael J. Kelly. Loving brother of Aileen Kelly and Molly (Tim) Linnane. Proud Uncle to Michael and Grace (our little angel) Linnane. Josh was dearly loved and will be missed by his aunts, uncles, and many cousins in the Kelly and Vail Families. Lifelong childhood friend of Kevin Murphy. Josh was a loyal Attendant for the Chicago Park District who was dearly loved by the staff members and neighborhood patrons for his hard work and dedication. He enjoyed hanging out with the Talman Block Club, listening to Motown Music, and spending time with everyone he loved. Family and friends will meet at Christ the King Church, 9235 S. Hamilton Ave., Chicago, IL 60643 on Monday, April 10, 2023 for visitation 11:00am-1:00pm. Mass of Christian Burial at 1:00pm. In lieu of flowers, memorials to Christmas Without Cancer, P.O. Box 628, Oak Lawn, IL 60454 or online at https://www.christmaswithoutcancer.org/donate are most appreciated. Info: **Heeney-Laughlin Funeral Directors**, 708-636-5500, or heeneyfh.com

Heeney-Laughlin

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Moroni, Molly

Molly Moroni, age 65, of Shoreland Hills, IN and Naperville, IL, passed away peacefully at home, surrounded by her brothers and sisters on April 3 2023. She is survived by her siblings, Harry (Barrie), Kitty (the late Thomas) Ryan, Frank (Catherine), Judith (Leslie) Martin-Veatch and Nancy (Paul) Bangiola. She was predeceased by her parents, Aldo and Gloria Moroni, brothers Joseph (Yvonne), Aldo Jr. and James (Rosemary) Moroni. Molly was a devoted daughter, sister, aunt, great aunt, and the most loyal friend. Raised in Oak Park, IL, she attended St. Giles Grammar School, Trinity High School in River Forest, IL, and Regis University in Denver, CO. Molly was successful in everything she did, retiring recently after many years, as an executive of multi-national, male dominated, manufacturing businesses. She worked for highly competitive organizations, consistently assuming key leadership roles. After retirement, Molly devoted her incredible energy, perseverance and love of life to her family, friends and causes important to her, most notably preserving the beach at Shoreland Hills, IN. Molly loved her family, friends, cooking, the beach, golf, and traveling the world. She was a gift to all who knew her. A visitation will be held at **Beidelman-Kunsch Funeral Home**, 516 S. Washington St, Naperville, IL on Monday April 10, 2023 from 4 - 8 PM. Funeral Prayers Tuesday 9:45 AM at the funeral home, going to St. Raphael Church for 10:30 AM Funeral Mass. Interment, Queen of Heaven Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to By The Beach, C/O Shoreland Hills Property Owners Assoc., PO Box 8881, Michigan City, IN 46361. By The Beach is a conservation effort in Shoreland Hills, Indiana, which was led in large part by Molly. Funeral Info: 630-355-0264.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Nowosel, Len

Len Nowosel, 86 years of age, passed away peacefully on Tuesday April 4, 2023 at St. Luke's Hospice Center. A celebration of life service will be held at a later date.

Lenny was born on September 7, 1936 in Evanston, Illinois to Mathias and Thery (Merna) Nowosel. From an early age Lenny had a passion for motors and vehicles. This led him to own and operate Chestnut Body Shop in Glenview, Illinois for over 40 years. He proudly served in the U.S. Military, and upon his discharge volunteered at the Glenview Fire Department for over 20 years.

Outside of body shop work, Lenny's true passion was weapons, hunting, and clay target sports. As a life member of Northbrook Sports Club, Otter Creek Sports Club, Amana Sportsmen's Club, and the NRA, he loved every aspect of target shooting. Through this activity he met his life partner, Belinda Keever. Together they moved from Chicagoland to Anamosa, Iowa and eventually to Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

He was preceded in death by his parents, stepmother Lois Nowosel, sister Gertrude Schneider, brother Matt Nowosel, and brother Erv Nowosel. He is survived by his sisters Liz McGuinness, Marge Klein, Erma Wilson, Thery Lynn Frey, plus many nieces and nephews.

He will be dearly missed by all who knew him well.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to your local fire department.

Online condolences may be left at www.iowacremation.com under Obituaries.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Price, Elaine

Elaine Price, 76, Chicago, IL passed away April 4, 2023, peacefully at home attended by loved ones.

Elaine was born in Blue Island, IL. After college, she travelled to Europe intending to return in a few weeks. Instead she fell in love with Europe and travel and spent a number of years living in Rome and London. After returning to the States she found her dream job as a flight attendant for American Airlines, enjoying international travel. She retired after 44 years following a stage 4 cancer diagnosis. For ten years she fought the disease and inspired many with her unfailing optimism and relentless determination to live life to the fullest. Generous with her kindness, she also volunteered at the Lakeview Pantry and the Ronald McDonald House. Her family and hundreds of friends will sorely miss her.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Lawrence and Edith Price and brothers Larry, Ronald and Douglas Price.

A future Celebration of Elaine's Life is being planned for a Chicago location, date to be determined.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Shriners Hospital for Children at lovetotherescue.org.

Condolences may be expressed on Elaine's webpage at The **Goldman Funeral Group**, goldmanfuneralgroup.com (847) 478-1600.

Goldman Funeral Group

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Smith, Jr., James S. 'Jim'

James S. "Jim" Smith, Jr. age 81, a resident of Naperville, IL since 1979, formerly of Whiting, IN and Overland Park, KS, passed away on Thursday, April 6, 2023 at Edward Hospital in Naperville. He was born May 8, 1941 in Chicago, IL.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday, April 11, 2023, 4:00-8:00 PM at **Friedrich-Jones Funeral Home & Cremation Services, 44 S. Mill St., Naperville.**

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated Wednesday, April 12, 11:00 AM at St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church, 1450 Green Trails Dr., Naperville.

Interment will follow at SS. Peter & Paul Cemetery, Naperville.

For a complete obituary, please visit www.friedrich-jones.com or call (630) 355-0213 for more information.

Friedrich Jones
Funeral Homes & Cremation Services

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Every life story deserves to be told.
Share your loved one's story at placeanad.chicagotribune.com
Chicago Tribune
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Sugden III, Henry H.

HENRY H SUGDEN III

Henry Hardy Sugden III, 73, of Woodstock, passed away on March 31, 2023, at his home in Woodstock, surrounded by his family. He was born on May 10, 1949, in Evanston, to Henry H Sugden II and Ida Frances (Bourland) Sugden. On September 5, 1981, he married Mary E Burke at St Mary Catholic Church, Woodstock.

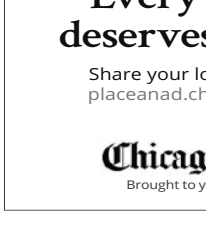
Visitation will be Friday, April 14, 2023, from 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm at Schneider-Leucht-Merwin-Cooney Funeral Home, 1211 N Seminary Avenue, Woodstock. Visitation will continue at the funeral home on Saturday, April 15, 2023, at 10:00 am until the Prayer Service at 11:00 am. Interment at Calvary Cemetery, Woodstock, will be private.

For more information, contact the funeral home at www.slmcfh.com, or by calling 815-338-1710.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Tapia, Susan

It is with great sadness that we announce the death



of Susan Tapia (née Arellano) who passed away peacefully at home on April 2, 2023, at the age of 97. She was preceded in death by her loving husband Daniel of 71 years and granddaughter Maria; parents Francisca and Efren Arellano and her siblings Maria Lopez (late Jesse), Cora Ambriz (late Celso), Amelia Galvan (late Raul), Alfred Arellano (late Lupe), and Elodia (late Santiago) Gonzalez. She is survived by her siblings Theresa (late Arnulfo) Zamora, Daniel (Donna) Arellano; her children Caroline (Andrew) Strzemp, Evelyn Tapia, Edward (Cathy) Tapia, Marilyn (Lawrence) Thivel; her grandchildren Michael, Leila, Andrea, Jessica, Daniel, Erik and Brian; her great grandchildren, Caitlyn, Dorian, Gabriela, Anabelle, Emily, Makenna, Emilia, Vivian and Kole; her great-great grandchildren Brendyn, Aubrey and Giselle. She is also survived by many nieces, nephews, and friends. Visitation Monday April 10th from 10:00 am until the time of Funeral Service 12-Noon at Adolf Funeral Home 7000 S. Madison St; Willowbrook. Interment: Resurrection Cemetery. Information: 630-325-2300 or adolfservices.com

ADOLF FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICES EST. 1882

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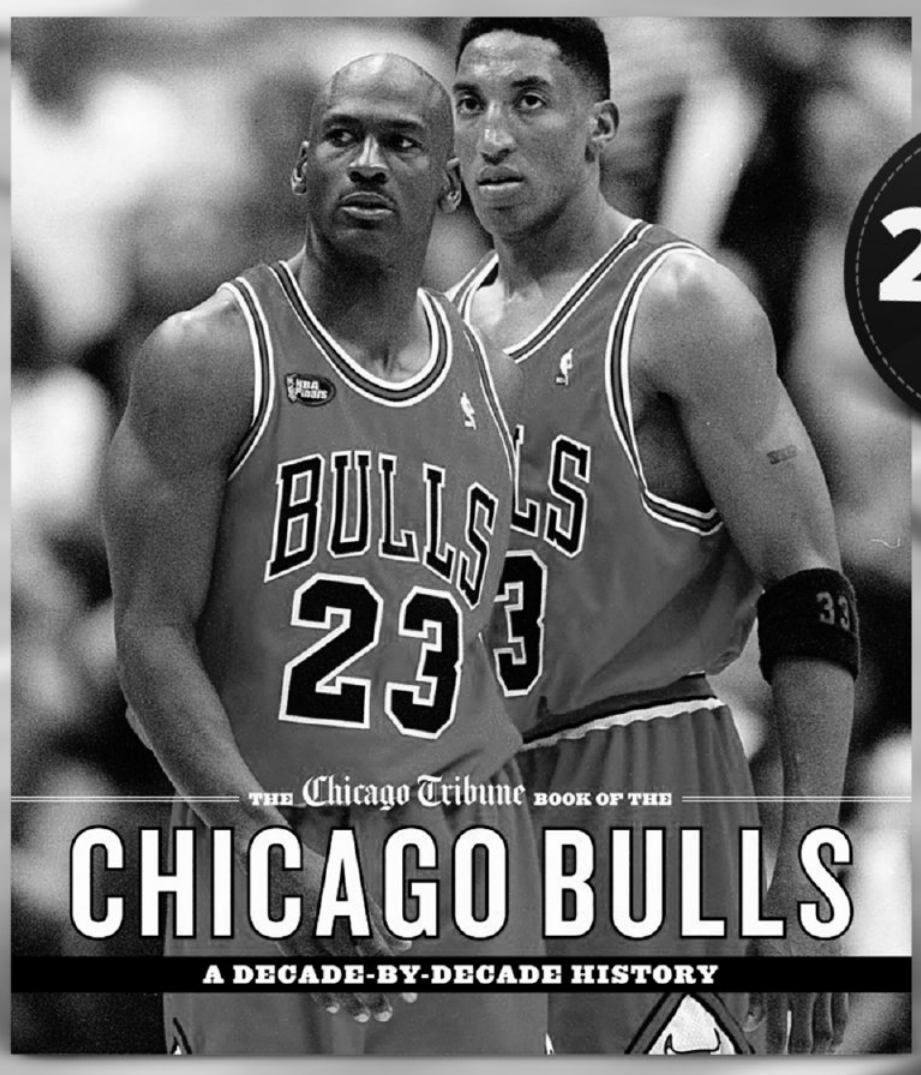

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BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Concrete RFP 6903570909

Martin Avenue Apartments

Martin Avenue apartments is soliciting proposals for the replacement and installation of concrete sidewalks and pads. Located at 310 Martin Avenue, Naperville Il 60540. Funds for this project are from the City of Naperville CDBG and Prevailing wages will apply. Please contact 630-357-0909 or Info@martinave.org for more information. Deadline for proposals is 4/30/2023. Minority and women-owned businesses are encouraged to submit bids on this project.

Cars/Wheels

Chevrolet Malibu 1971 2 DOOR, WHITE, AUTOMATIC, $4000 SRM AUTOS 773-750-9599

Ford Freestyle 2006 SRM AUTO $7000 773-750-9599

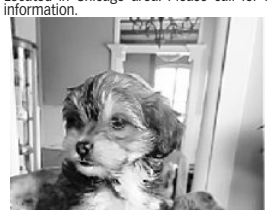
Lexus LS 460 2012 AWD, 4 DOOR, SILVER. SRM AUTOS 773-750-9599 $12000

Mitsubishi Outlander Sport 2017 RED, SRM AUTOS 773-750-9599 $10,000

DOGS

Designer Yorkie-Poo Puppies 918 527 3984
Chicago 1500.00 **Male**

Adorable home raised puppies, 9 weeks, male, vet checked, first shots, low shed, smart, started well on potty training, highly intelligent. Located in Chicago area. Please call for more information.



Labrador Retriever 630-710-4373
Elburn IL 850 **M/F**

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Maltese 219-707-7788
Valparaiso, IN $1650 **M**

2 Maltese puppies need good home, vet Check, CKC papers. If interested please call 219-707-7788 ask for Julie

Wheaten Terrier Puppies 812-583-0040
Indiana--may deliver 800.00 **M/F**

AKC Wheaten Terrier pups in time for Easter! Loyal, loving, non-shedding, hypo-allergenic bundles of fun! vet ckd; UTD shots; wormed $800.00 (812)583-0040 call/text

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROMISED TO PUBLISH Thank You to Jesus Christ our Saviour, Blessed Mother Mary and St Jude Patron St of Hopeless Causes for prayers granted in Novena. AC **xxxxxxxxx**

ASSUMED NAMES

Notice is hereby given, Pursuant to "An Act in relation To the use of an Assumed Business Name in the conduct or transaction of Business in The State" as amended, that a Certification was filed by the Undersigned with the County Clerk of Cook C**ounty** Fi**le No. Y23010381** on the D**ate: 3/28/2023** Under the Assumed Name of: **Miller Motor Works** with the business located at: **12627 S. Kroll Drive Alsip, Illinois, 60803** The true name and residence Address of the owner is: **Keith Miller 12450 Natchez Ave. Palos Heights, Illinois, 60463**
3/31, 4/7, 4/14/2023 7408068

Notice is hereby given, Pursuant to "An Act in relation To the use of an Assumed Business Name in the conduct or transaction of Business in The State" as amended, that a Certification was filed by the Undersigned with the County Clerk of Cook C**ounty** Fi**le No. Y23010385** on the D**ate: 03/28/2023** Under the Assumed Name of: **Wisely Financial Strategies** with the business located at: **1425 W. Fullerton Avenue | 2S Chicago, IL, 60614** The true name and residence Address of the owner is: **Joyce Yoo 1425 W. Fullerton Avenue | 2S Chicago, IL , 60614**
3/31, 4/7, 4/14/2023 7408517

Notice is hereby given, Pursuant to "An Act in relation To the use of an Assumed Business Name in the conduct or transaction of Business in The State" as amended, that a Certification was filed by the Undersigned with the County Clerk of Cook C**ounty** Fi**le No. Y23010401** on the D**ate: March 30, 2023** Under the Assumed Name of: **Gabriel Fierro Hair** with the business located at: **1735 Maple Ave Evanston , IL, 60201** The true name and residence Address of the owner is: **Gabriel Martin Fierro 1419 W Hollywood Ave Chicago, IL, 60660**
4/7, 4/14, 4/21/2023 7411830

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES GOVERNMENT/EDUCATION

Cook County 2020 Annual Action Plan HUD Entitlement Grant Funds Public Comment Opportunity

Draft Substantial Amendment to the 2020 Annual Action Plan

The Cook County Department of Planning and Development (CCDPD) within the Bureau of Economic Development currently receives Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding on an annual entitlement basis from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The County is accepting public comments regarding its Draft Substantial Amendment to its 2020 Annual Action Plan, which increases CDBG funding for a particular project to better meet community development needs in suburban Cook County.

Applicable Public Comment Period: *30 Days – April 7th, 2023 – May 8th, 2023*

Public Comment Opportunities

An important part of the process of developing a Substantial Amendment is to promote citizen participation and solicit input. The Draft may be reviewed on-line at the Cook County website during the applicable public comment period specified above at this link: https://www.cookcountyil.gov/service/public-notices-planning-and-development-0

All interested parties are encouraged to provide written comments. Written comments for the Draft Substantial Amendment is being accepted during the applicable public comment period specified above and must be received by 4 p.m. on the last day of the aforementioned public comment period in order to receive consideration. Written comments must be directed to Cheryl Cooke, Deputy Director, Cook County Department of Planning and Development at email Home.Response@CookCountyil.gov.

A Spanish version of the Draft Substantial Amendment to the 2020 Annual Action Plan is also be available on Cook County's website at the following link https://www.cookcountyil.gov/service/public-notices-planning-and-development-0

For Citizens who require additional accommodations and/or language translations please email Home.Response@cookcountyil.gov. Phone number 312-603-1000.
4/7/2023 - 7412113

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT – APRIL 7, 2023 CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR MANAGING ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING (MEC) SERVICES
DUE: May 8, 2023 AT 2:00 p.m.
See: www.cps.edu/purchasing
4/7/23 7412245

LEGAL NOTICE STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF COOK

In the matter of the revision of the assessment of Real Property for 2023:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to the provisions of
Section 14-35 of the Illinois Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/14-35) that the Assessor of Cook County will sit for the purpose of reviewing the proposed 2023 assessment of Real Property located in the following township(s) or taxing district(s) in Cook County.

BARRINGTON

Identified also as Area(s) 01, under the Permanent Real Estate Index Numbering System of Cook County.

The last date within which applications for revisions of assessment (Real Estate Assessed Valuation Appeals) may be filed for consideration at such sitting is May 05, 2023.

Such sitting will be held at the office of the Assessor of Cook
County, Room 301, in the County Building, 118 North Clark Street,
Chicago, Illinois 60602, and will continue thereafter from day to day as necessary until all such revisions in said township(s) or taxing district(s) have been completed.

Done by the Assessor of Cook County this 07th day of April, 2023.

FRITZ KAEGI
ASSESSOR OF COOK COUNTY
04/07/2023 7412496

LEGAL NOTICES GOVERNMENT/EDUCATION

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago will be accepting applications for the following classification(s):

Senior Administrative Specialist (Promotional)

Application Filing Period: March 24, 2023 through April 7, 2023. **Examination Date:** May 13, 2023. **Location:** Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences (CHAS), 3857 West 111th Street, Chicago, IL. **Scope of Examination:** Knowledge of Senior Administrative Specialist practices. **Nature of Position and Duties:** Under supervision, performs sub-professional administrative work such as document and records management, data collection, and reporting and coordination of internal processes specific to the assigned department or functional area. **Salary:** $74,693.06 per year

Assistant Civil Engineer (Original & Promotional)

Application Filing Period: March 24, 2023 through April 21, 2023. **Scope of Examination:** Knowledge of Assistant Civil Engineer practices. **Nature of Position and Duties:** Under immediate supervision, performs entry-level civil engineering work in the design, construction, maintenance and operation of water reclamation plants and sewers. May supervise sub-professional personnel. **Salary:** $80,312.96 per year

Assistant Electrical Engineer (Original & Promotional)

Application Filing Period: March 24, 2023 through April 21, 2023. **Scope of Examination:** Knowledge of Assistant Electrical Engineer practices. **Nature of Position and Duties**: Under immediate supervision, performs entry-level electrical engineering work in electrical power and lighting systems design; construction inspection and scheduling review; and preparation of electrical estimates. Performs field inspections of electrical installations or assists in supervision of electrical equipment maintenance. **Salary:** $80,312.96 per year

Assistant Mechanical Engineer (Original & Promotional)

Application Filing Period: March 24, 2023 through April 21, 2023. **Scope of Examination:** Knowledge of Assistant Mechanical Engineer practices. **Nature of Position and Duties:** Under immediate supervision, performs entry-level mechanical engineering work in mechanical design, construction inspection and plant maintenance or operation. May review the work of sub-professional personnel. **Salary:** $80,312.96 per year

Assistant Structural Engineer (Original & Promotional)

Application Filing Period: March 24, 2023 through April 21, 2023. **Scope of Examination:** Knowledge of Assistant Structural Engineer practices. **Nature of Position and Duties:** Under immediate supervision, performs entry-level structural engineering work in the design of steel, wood, and reinforced concrete structures. May supervise sub-professional personnel. **Salary:** $80,312.96 per year

Senior Diversity Officer (Original & Promotional)

Application Filing Period: March 24, 2023 through April 7, 2023. **Examination Date:** May 12-13, 2023. **Location:** MWRD Main Office Building Annex, 111 East Erie Street, Chicago, IL. **Scope of Examination:** Knowledge of Senior Diversity Officer practices. **Nature of Position and Duties**: Assists in the implementation of the District's Affirmative Action policies to ensure compliance with Federal, State and District Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity laws, regulations and requirements and supervises professional staff. **Salary:** $97,826.30 per year

Engineering Technician III (Original)

Application Filing Period: March 31, 2023 through April 14, 2023. **Examination Date:** May 20, 2023. **Location:** Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences (CHAS), 3857 West 111th Street, Chicago, IL. **Scope of Examination:** Knowledge of Engineering Technician III practices. **Nature of Position and Duties:** Under supervision, is responsible for performing technical tasks related to the maintenance and operation of a sewage treatment plant. **Salary:** $58,236.88 per year

Applications can be submitted online **only** at www.districtjobs.org.

Additional information may be found at www.districtjobs.org or call 312-751-5100.

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LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Lien Sale / Public Auction

In accordance with the provisions of State law, there being due and unpaid charges for which the undersigned is entitled to satisfy an owner and/or manager's lien of the goods hereinafter described and stored at the Life Storage location(s) listed below.
#424, 2051 North Austin Ave Chicago, IL 60639 Ph 773.237.2713: 2160 Jennifer Mosley, 4027 Jorge Serrano Apolinar, 2298 Anton M Graham, 2134 Derek Jordan, 2226 Elton L Brady, 1325 Deavin Butler, 1315 Yvette R Dorsey, 4199 Carol Brody, 4067 Sean Fuentes, 2165 Frederick L Blade, 2138 Ruben Caraballo, 2065 Charlotte Nichols, 1246 Delanie N Rackham. **#479, 2850 N. Pulaski Road Chicago IL 60641 Ph 773.283.4150**: 1431 Scott Lightner, 1510 Ahmed Lqati, 1139 Mario Suastegui, 1222 Robert Adams, 1343 Eli A Lozada. **#548, 2301 W. Algonquin Rd Algonquin IL 60102 Ph 847.658.5968**: 188 Lorenzo Moore, 183 All Star Int & Ext, 328 Erika Lymperopulos, 172 Andrew Hutson, 191 Stanislav Borisov, 256 Erika Lymperopulos. **#552, 4014 W. Grand Ave Chicago IL 60651 Ph 773.235.2884**: 109 Virgen Rosario, 150 Nathaniel Ballard Jr, 177 Tiffany Moore, 194 Deshanae McDonald, 200 David Kay, 233 Deondre McGowan, 270 Clyde Barnes, 277 Vina Detello, 325 Jamise Johnson, 354 Fantasia Rogers, 462 Andrea Qaboss, 514 Eric Bey, 594 Shaneka Bracey, 609 Melvin Thompson, 649 Bobby Barclett, 735 Rosa Elena Diaz. **#553, 700 E Park Ave Libertyville IL 60048 Ph 847.549.0177:** 2380 Michael Grollo. **#555, 6505 Oakton St Morton Grove IL 60053 Ph 847.966.1899**: 1663 Thomas Wojtczak, 1649 Hector Montes, 1375 Gerald T Kostelny, 1449 Eric J Rubin, 1665 ASC Mechanical, 1569 Ryan Cole. **#558, 6603 W. Diversey Ave Chicago, IL 60707 Ph 773.237.3030**: A1120 William Lange, A0005 Danielle Byndom, C2104 Mora Moreno, D2157 Miguel Soto. **#560, 450 Airport Rd Elgin IL 60123 Ph 847.888.1834**: 204 Erika Lymperopulos, 509 Roberto Hernandez, 658 Eric Mendez, 674 Jeanne Stark, 727 Larry Brown. **#561, 7524 N. Paulina St Chicago IL 60626 Ph 773.381.1417**: 819 Norma Moore, 836 Norma Moore, 329 Norma Moore, 120 Joanna Adjei, 555 Tyresa Randolph, 367 Elwood R Berka, 492 Baoura Tomboouda, 736 Tiara Moore, 275 Jemmerio Kimble, 727 Mike Dina, 427 James Jung, 474 James Jung, 522 James Jung, 694 Norma McLachlan, 262 Delyonia Sutton, 711 Jason Whitten. **#564, 4500 W. Grand Ave Chicago, IL 60639 Ph 773.235.8452:** 077 Asia Carter, 572 Dan Hood, 125 Kristin McCaffrey, 327 Yolanda Floyd. **#569, 1800 Des Plaines Ave Forest Park IL 60130 Ph 708.209.1100**: 2451 Rogelio Calleros, 2337 Jamil Abusaid. **#7208, 1400 N. Cicero Ave Chicago, IL 60651 Ph 773-832-7809**: 4174 Oscar Ware, 3003 Anyika Gentry, 1357 Alfredo Garcia Torrez, 4133 Boyce C Culpepper, 1296 Elouise Alexander, 4044 Johnica Jones, 2084 Alisha Gordon, 1161 Cheryl Reese, 4093 Lisette Pastoriza, 5032 Kierra Miller, Pamela Loper, 1144 Curtis Palmer, 1293 Dannie Thompson, 3020 Chiquita Hodges, 1202 Charles Dickerson, 1181 Calvin Williams, 4058 Latasha Haggard, 3021 Chiquita Hodges, 1141 Siri Hibbler, 3014 Letiva Lockett, 1274 Destiny McClain. **#7209, 5746 W. Roosevelt Rd Chicago, IL 60644 Ph 224-232-0432**: 1020 Decoby Smith, 1060 Mynetra Hawkins, 1096 Terrance Patton, 1169 Arianna Turner, 1254 Katie Ramirez, 1345 Kendall Brent, 1407 Keisha Amos, 1509 Jamal Cain, 2039 Sharita Aye-Adams, 2250 William Tooley, 2294 Kawania Smith. **#1112, 465 N Desplaines St Chicago, IL 60654 Ph 312-546-7559**: 3039 Ireather Harris, 4153 Cleanse Chicago, 3113 Renato Quedas, 5016 Madeleine Sparkman.
And, due notice having been given, to the owner of said property and all parties known to claim an interest therein, and the time specified in such notice for payment of such having expired, the goods will be sold to the highest bidder or otherwise disposed of at a public auction to be held online at www.StorageTreasures.com which will end on April 27th at 10:00 AM.
Pub: 3/31 & 4/7/2023 7407398

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Lien Sale / Public Auction

In accordance with the provisions of State law, there being due and unpaid charges for which the undersigned is entitled to satisfy an owner and/or manager's lien of the goods hereinafter described and stored at the Life Storage location(s) listed below.
#417, 11525 184th Place Orland Park IL 60467 Ph 708.460.5566: 521 Fatima Iqbal, 724 Justin Cullinan. **#425, 345 North Western Ave Chicago IL 60612 Ph 312.421.0200**: 458 Omotoyosi A Oladipo, 643 Anthony Noe, 684 Matthew Newberger, 794 Ryanal Campbell, 807 Anthony Holloway, 818 Christyn S Henson, 6123 Jonathan L Crowell. **#426, 615 W Pershing Rd Chicago IL 60609 Ph 773.376.5167**: 254 Marvin Spruiel. **#432, 3626 N Broadway St Chicago IL 60613 Ph 773.697.7674**: 149 Barbara Galan, 1183 Kayla Marie Mischke, 3057 Robert Daniels. **#467, 1625 S Ashland Ave Chicago IL 60608 Ph 312.465.2977:** 1002 Denys Espinoza Carpet, 3153 Kayla Odell, 1062 Angel Vital- Perez, 1099 Heath Winn, 2143 Sylvester Presley, 3145 Justin Payton, 3186 Ethan Pettiway, 3228 Treavor Parks, 3172 Christopher Langtiw, 2039 Ceasar Douglas. **#480, 5253 West 111th Street Alsip IL 60803 Ph 708.425.4499:** 3103 Keith Jones, C48 Phillip Sheppard, 1002 Bertina Bell, 1006 Mary Tolan, 1007 Mary Tolan, 2006 Terrence Patton, 2042 Terrence Patton, G61 Mercedes Alvarez, G62 India Adams, K23D Lisa Nordstrom, K68D Lisa Nordstrom, 3010 Jamie Carlson. **#551, 2361 S State St Chicago IL 60616 Ph 312.842.0004:** 1077 Jennifer Holt, 1028 Tamika Avingston, 3120 Terry Adams,1086 Favored Flowers LLC, 2062 Favored Flowers LLC, 2066 Favored Flowers LLC, 3036 Favored Flowers LLC, 4073 Vanessa L Lowery, 3155 Eric McArthur, 3158 Debbie Reynolds, 4162 Georgina Tlatelpa, 5081 Tracy Adams, 189 Andre P Anthony. **#556, 7700 W 79th St Bridgeview IL 60455 Ph 708.924.9484:** 1721 Colleen C Quinlivan, 1841 Wayne Brown. **#562, 21700 S Cicero Ave Matteson IL 60443 Ph 708.748.4987:** 312 Renee Washington, 327 India Adams-Dixson, 330 Melba Pierce, 0553 Andrew Jones, 0565 James Terry, 0592 Donovan Coruthers, 0705 Chukwuesuka Ogbobuegwu, 0708 Ryan Winters, L11 Jamaal Hodges. **#563, 3200 Holeman Ave South Chicago Heights IL 60411 Ph 708.754.682**0: F56 Aaron Pointer, D35 Wyman King, F17 Willi Zollicoffer, B8 Richard Frain, B12 Richard Frain, E25 Shonda Gray-Beard, F38 Taren Booker. **#565, 3245 W 30th St Chicago IL 60623 Ph 773.376.8577**: 2379 Montana Davenport, 2364 Ernesto Montano, 1034 Sir Daniel Lee, 3204 Mark Matthis, 1124 Maria Barban, 2329 Shaquwn Jackson, 3093 Dmarco Alvarado, 2016 Manuel Garcia, 2128 Leyva Maria, 2478 Homero Chapa Jr, 3003 Armand Greer, 2197 Desirae Garcia. **#566, 8531 W. 191st St Mokena IL 60448 Ph 708.390.9680**: 0288 Richard Leigh, N53 Sharmalee Burnett, 1093 Leandra Irvin, 5077 Brian Graham, M52 Chakira Woods. **#1115, 1991 W Haven Ave New Lenox IL 60451 Ph 815.680.576**2: 1032 Jeff Barnett, 1352 Kevin Hankins, 1540 Gabriela Garibay. **#1133, 6331 North Broadway St Chicago IL 60660 Ph 773.764.0282**: 297 Kwachelanji Mbilizi. **#8345, 305 S Larkin Ave Joliet IL 60436 Ph 815.725.5191**: 1008 Anita P Johnson, 1135 Mary Christine Garcia, 5031 Taviana Mckinley, A14 Mya Maltbia, 4219 Khyla Brand, 1090 Tacarra Lewis, 4083 Olivia Turner, A24 Phoenix Ledesma-Marcado, 5103 Griffin McCabe, A46 Jamie Mendoza, 5136 Shanece Bates.
And, due notice having been given, to the owner of said property and all parties known to claim an interest therein, and the time specified in such notice for payment of such having expired, the goods will be sold to the highest bidder or otherwise disposed of at a public auction to be held online at www.StorageTreasures.com which will end on April 27th at 10:00 AM.
Pub: 3/31 & 4/7/2023 7407410

LEGAL NOTICE

John Burns Construction, located at 999 Oakmont Plaza Drive Suite 400, Westmont IL 60559, (708)326-3500 is seeking disadvantaged business for the City of Joliet -Combined Sewer Overflow Long Term Control Plan Phase IV - Eastside And Westside Combined Sewer Overflow Regulators project for subcontracting opportunities in the following areas: including but not limited to site work, process piping, site utilities, electrical, asphalt paving, concrete paving, earthwork and landscaping. All disadvantaged business should contact in writing, (certified letter, return receipt requested), Matt Teschke to discuss subcontracting opportunities, All negotiations must be completed prior to the bid date on May 2nd, 2023. Received proposal and quotations for this project will be evaluated based on the following criteria: low, responsive, responsible bidder as determined by John Burns Construction.
April 7, 2023 - 7411515

ADVERTISEMENT OF SALE

Property will be sold per the Self-Service Storage Facility Act. Sale on Friday the 21st day of April 2023 at 10:00 AM with bidding to take place on lockerfox.com. Payment and pickup at facility. Store Space S Elgin-Randall, 250 Randall Rd, South Elgin, IL, 60177 (239) 834-7665 Jackson, Andre 2122
4/7 & 4/14/237412287

ADVERTISEMENT OF SALE

Property will be sold per the Self-Service Storage Facility Act. Sale on Friday the 28th day of April 2023 at 10:00 AM with bidding to take place on lockerfox.com. Payment and pickup at facility. Store Space Minooka, 400 Brannick Rd,, Minooka, IL, 60448 (815) 335-9990 Mcintosh, Damion 0419
4/7 & 4/14/237412294

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Lien Sale / Public Auction

In accordance with the provisions of State law, there being due and unpaid charges for which the undersigned is entitled to satisfy an owner and/or manager's lien of the goods hereinafter described and stored at the Life Storage location(s) listed below.
#405, 1401 N Plum Grove Rd Schaumburg IL 60173 Ph 847.843.1027: 149 Vitaly Floryan, 423 Caryn Thomas, 2061 Aaron Childress, 3034 Bryan Lyter, 7110 Alicia A Miller. **#422, 232 South Lake Street Aurora IL 60506 Ph 630.966.0965**: 2182 Larry Gleaton, 3055 Jonathan Castillo, 1051 Brian Risper, 1041 Anthony Mcmilan, 3012 Brooke Shelly, 3018 Ed Lewis, 3185 Linda Byrum, 3189 Linda Byrum, 2037 Eliset Garcia, 1205 Dina Rainey Parks, 3227 Kevin Dismuke, 1167 Carmona Sharie, 3213 Karla Betance. **#442, 2625 E Main Street Saint Charles IL 60174 Ph 630.584.0580**: 3119 Jeffrey N Murphy, 5136 Jeffrey N Murphy, 4114 Derek Johnson. **#504, 1414 N Rand Rd Arlington Heights, Il 60004 Ph 847.818.1773**: 2197 Mollie Dajani, 2237 Mollie Dajani, 3110 Darrell Scarlett, 3103 Rhonda Drugon. **#511, 1125 E St Charles Rd Lombard IL 60148 Ph 630.495.1658**: 2074 Tonnesia Tyler, 4083 Perry Marshall, 2169 Kelli May, 4107 Annette Dixon, 2166 Ronald W Schroeder JR, 2193 Douglas Nelson, 3046 Jesus Rosales, 2198 Insurance Integrated Services. **#554, 1650 N Randall Rd Aurora IL 60506 Ph 630.907.9870**: 3215 Colleen Sprinkle, 3191 Farooq A Qazi, 3110 Elizabeth Black, 1185 Elizabeth Black, 1147 Kimberly Foster, 3119 James Sutera, 3152 Julissa Jamie Vazquez, 1097 Marvin Long, 3028 Victor Sanchez. **#557, 426 S Westgate St Addison IL 60101 Ph 630.543.6303**: 2076 Anthony Roiberto, 1111 Ivan Vackicev, 1025 Tiffany Martini. **#559, 953 S IL Route 83 Elmhurst IL 60126 Ph 630.279.2522:** D1197 Shawndell Young, C1157 Sylvia Hicks. **#567, 1455 S Barrington Rd Barrington IL 60010 Ph 847.381.3100:** 2045 Crystal Pettibone, 2046 Wardneatria Miller, 2304 Frank Houmpavlis. **#568, 1950 N Washington St Naperville IL 60563 Ph 630.505.0001:** 3025 Knikita Martin, 2110 Michelle Dykstra, 2114 Alfred Mayo, 4009 Gene Mathis, 3127 Jamar Johnson, 2040 Scott Myron. **#570, 405 Shawmut Ave La Grange IL 60525 Ph 708.352.0001**: 125 Kyle Lonzo, 1024 Beth McLawhorn. **#1111 500 N Kirk Rd Batavia IL 60510 Ph 630.326.6528**: F-13 New Era Landscaping, 525 John G Welsh, B-49 Jennifer LeTang. **#1113 737 S Rand Rd Lake Zurich IL 60047 Ph 224.662.341**5: 758 Dashira Griffith. **#404, 1400 S. Skokie Hwy Lake Forest IL 60045 Ph 847.234.0585**: 4217 Viridiana Toledo. **#416, 20765 W. Grass Lake Road Lindenhurst IL 60046 Ph 847.356.7950**: 1106 Correne Carp. **#481, 5860 N Pulaski Road Chicago IL 60646 Ph 773.654.3780**: 462 Luis Corea, 272 Donna Szalacha, 239 Jocelyn E Nichols, 283 Desiree Sebastian. **#553, 700 E. Park Ave Libertyville IL 60048 Ph 847.549.0177**: 2380 Michael Grollo. **#555, 6505 Oakton St Morton Grove IL 60053 Ph 847.966.1899**: 1663 Thomas Wojtczak, 1649 Hector Montes, 1375 Gerald T Kostelny, 1449 Eric J Rubin, 1665 ASC Mechanical, 1569 Ryan Cole. **#571, 1205 Milwaukee Ave Glenview IL 60025 Ph 847.795.0342**: 0115 Myra Ruiz, 6001 Adam Kosalka.
And, due notice having been given, to the owner of said property and all parties known to claim an interest therein, and the time specified in such notice for payment of such having expired, the goods will be sold to the highest bidder or otherwise disposed of at a public auction to be held online at www.StorageTreasures.com which will end on April 27th 2023 at 10:00 AM.
Pub: 3/31 & 4/7/2023 7407423

FORECLOSURES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT – CHANCERY DIVISION Carrington Mortgage Services LLC Plaintiff, vs. Lamariel Walker, Syreeta T. Wilson, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants, Defendant(s). 2023CH00689 NOTICE OF PUBLICATION NOTICE IS GIVEN TO YOU: Lamariel Walker, Syreeta T. Wilson, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON RECORD CLAIMANTS; defendants, that this case has been commenced in this Court against you and other defendants, asking for the foreclosure of a certain Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to wit: Lot 1 in Block 15 in second Roseland Heights, a Subdivision of the East 2/3 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 10, Township 37 North, Range 14, East of the Third Principal Meridian, in Cook County, Illinois. Commonly known as: 9700 S. Indiana Avenue, Chicago, IL 60628 and which said mortgage was made by Syreeta T. Wilson and Lamariel Walker, Mortgagor(s), to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems. Inc. as nominee for Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC; Mortgagee, and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Cook County, Illinois, as Document No. 1825416019; and for other relief. UNLESS YOU file your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this case in the Office of the Clerk of this County, 50 W. Washington, Chicago, IL, 60602, on or before MAY 1, 2023 A JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF ASKED IN THE COMPLAINT. RANDALL S. MILLER & ASSOCIATES, LLC Attorneys for Plaintiff Attorney No: 46689 120 North LaSalle Street, Suite 1140, Chicago, IL 60602 Phone: (312) 239-3432 Fax: (312) 284-4820 pleadings@rsmalaw.com File No:23IL00001-1 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act you are advised that this firm may be deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained may be used for that purpose. 8120-931506
3/31, 4/7, 4/14/20237408230

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LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

INVITATION FOR PROPOSALS FOR
8676-94 South Vincennes Avenue
849 West 86th Street
Chicago, Illinois

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given by the City of Chicago (the "City"), through its Department of Planning and Development, Real Estate Division (the "Department"), has received an offer from SKS Development, Inc. to purchase City-owned property containing a total area of approximately 37,142 square feet, located at the following addresses:

849 West 86th Street..... PIN: 20-32-430-022-0000
8676 South Vincennes Avenue..... PIN: 20-32-430-023-0000
8678 South Vincennes Avenue..... PIN: 20-32-430-024-0000
8680 South Vincennes Avenue..... PIN: 20-32-430-025-0000
8682 South Vincennes Avenue..... PIN: 20-32-430-026-0000
8684 South Vincennes Avenue..... PIN: 20-32-430-027-0000
8688 South Vincennes Avenue..... PIN: 20-32-430-028-0000
8690 South Vincennes Avenue..... PIN: 20-32-430-039-0000
8694 South Vincennes Avenue..... PIN: 20-32-430-040-0000

SKS Development, Inc. who proposes to acquire the property located at 8676-94 South Vincennes Avenue and 849 West 86th Street, consists of (9) nine vacant parcels, and plans to redevelop the property into a fully operational gas station, mini-mart and car wash. SKS Development, Inc. has agreed to pay $240,000.00 for the property which is equivalent to the appraised fair market value and is the minimum price acceptable to the Department of Planning and Development, Real Estate Division.

Prior to further consideration of the proposed purchase, the Department of Planning and Development desires to invite proposals from others interested in the acquisition of the properties.

The City may require that the buyer obtain a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) and if warranted a Phase II ESA. If the Phase II ESA identifies contamination above remediation objectives as determined by Title 35 of the Illinois Administrative Code Part 742, then the Site must be enrolled in the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's Site Remediation Program and a comprehensive No Further Remediation Letter obtained prior to use of the land or occupancy of any building developed on the property. The City may credit the buyer for the cost of the reports and remediation but in no case will the City provide reimbursement in excess of the sale price.

All proposals are required to be submitted in writing to the:

Department of Planning and Development
Real Estate Division
Attention: Nelson Chueng
121 North LaSalle Street, Room 1003
Chicago, Illinois 60602

on or before Monday, April 17, 2023, by 4:00 p.m. Each proposal must describe the general plan for development of the property, the price offered for the property, the names of the party or parties making the proposal, evidence of financial qualifications and capacity to complete said development and timetable for implementation of the proposal.

The City of Chicago reserves the right to reject any or all proposals or to request additional information in clarification of any proposal. No proposal will be accepted from any person, firm or corporation who is in default on any loan or debt owed to the City of Chicago, either as principal or surety, or is otherwise in breach of any contract or obligation to the City.

The City of Chicago, Department of Planning and Development is an Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. If you are a developer with a disability or need assistance regarding the invitation, please call the Real Estate Division at (312) 744-5263.

Maurice D. Cox
Commissioner

Lori E. Lightfoot
Mayor

INVITATION FOR PROPOSALS FOR 8132-42 South Vincennes Avenue Chicago, Illinois

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given by the City of Chicago (the "City"), through its Department of Planning and Development, Real Estate Division (the "Department"), has received an offer from the Chicago Board of Education (the "Board") to purchase City-owned property containing a total area of approximately 21,567 square feet, located at the following addresses:

8132-42 South Vincennes Avenue….....PIN: 20-33-121-028-0000

The "Board" proposes to acquire the single City-owned parcel located at 8132-42 South Vincennes Avenue and plans to redevelop the property into a fully operational driver's education facility for primary use by Simeon Career Academy High School and has agreed to pay $1.00 for the property. This is the maximum price acceptable to the Department of Planning and Development, Real Estate Division.

Prior to further consideration of the proposed purchase, the Department of Planning and Development desires to invite proposals from others interested in the acquisition of the properties.

The City may require that the buyer obtain a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) and if warranted a Phase II ESA. If the Phase II ESA identifies contamination above remediation objectives as determined by Title 35 of the Illinois Administrative Code Part 742, then the Site must be enrolled in the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's Site Remediation Program and a comprehensive No Further Remediation Letter obtained prior to use of the land or occupancy of any building developed on the property. The City may credit the buyer for the cost of the reports and remediation but in no case will the City provide reimbursement in excess of the sale price.

All proposals are required to be submitted in writing to the:

Department of Planning and Development
Real Estate Division
Attention: Nelson Chueng
121 North LaSalle Street, Room 1003
Chicago, Illinois 60602

On or before Monday, April 24, 2023, by 4:00 p.m. Each proposal must describe the general plan for development of the property, the price offered for the property, the names of the party or parties making the proposal, evidence of financial qualifications and capacity to complete said development and timetable for implementation of the proposal.

The City of Chicago reserves the right to reject any or all proposals or to request additional information in clarification of any proposal. No proposal will be accepted from any person, firm or corporation who is in default on any loan or debt owed to the City of Chicago, either as principal or surety, or is otherwise in breach of any contract or obligation to the City.

The City of Chicago, Department of Planning and Development is an Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. If you are a developer with a disability or need assistance regarding the invitation, please call the Real Estate Division at (312) 744-5263.

Maurice D. Cox
Commissioner

Lori E. Lightfoot
Mayor

CHICAGO ACCUWEATHER

Meteorologists Larry Mowry, Cheryl Scott, Jaisol Martinez, Tracy Butler and Greg Dutra

ABC7 Outlook: It will be sunny and chilly by the lake. Inland temperatures will be in the mid- to upper 50s, mid-40s along the lake. There will be a northeast wind at 10-15 mph.

	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
	Day / Night	Day / Night	Day / Night	Day / Night	Day / Night	Day / Night
High / Low	46 / 38	57 / 41	62 / 48	64 / 50	70 / 55	71 / 54
	Brilliant sunshine	Mostly sunny and milder	Sunshine and some clouds	Mild with periods of clouds and sunshine	Warm with plenty of sunshine	Warm with plenty of sunshine
POP	0%	0%	5%	10%	10%	15%
Winds	ENE 7-14 mph	SE 6-12 mph	SSE 7-14 mph	SSW 7-14 mph	S 8-16 mph	SW 8-16 mph

CHICAGO FORECAST

Friday Conditions

8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m. 8 p.m.

AccuWeather.com UV Index™

1	3	6	6	3	1	0

RealFeel Temperature®

34	41	47	50	45	38	38

Friday Activities

8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m. 8 p.m.

Outdoor Activities Index

3	5	6	6	5	4	3

Fishing Index

8	5	10	10	8	5	7

The higher the **AccuWeather.com UV Index** number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection. **0-2** Low, **3-5** Moderate, **6-7** High, **8-10** Very High, **11+** Extreme. The patented **AccuWeather.com RealFeel Temperature** is an exclusive index of effective temperature based on eight weather factors. **Outdoor Activities and Fishing Indexes: 0-2**: Poor; **3-4**: Fair; **5-6**: Good; **7-8**: Very Good; **9-10**: Excellent.

CHICAGO ALMANAC

Thursday Temperatures

O'Hare through 4 p.m.

High	51
Low	32
Normal high	55
Normal low	37
Record high	84 (1929)
Record low	15 (1982)

Local Temperatures

through 6 p.m. Thursday

Location	Hi	Lo	Normal Hi	Normal Lo
Aurora	54	30	57	34
Gary	50	34	56	37
Kankakee	49	32	57	36
Lansing	52	33	56	37
Midway	52	33	56	38
Romeoville	51	33	57	36
Valparaiso	49	32	58	37
Waukegan	52	31	52	33

Thursday Precipitation

	2023	2022	Normal
Thursday*	0.00"	0.76"	0.11"
Month to date	1.20"	1.41"	0.64"
Year to date	11.43"	8.56"	7.05"
Snowfall			
Thursday*	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"
Month to date	Trace	0.2"	0.5"
Season to date	19.6"	32.6"	37.6"

*24-hour period ending 4 p.m. Thursday

Air Quality Index

Thursday's reading: **Good**

Friday's forecast: **Good**

Primary pollutant: **Particulates**

Source: AirNow.gov

Sun and Moon

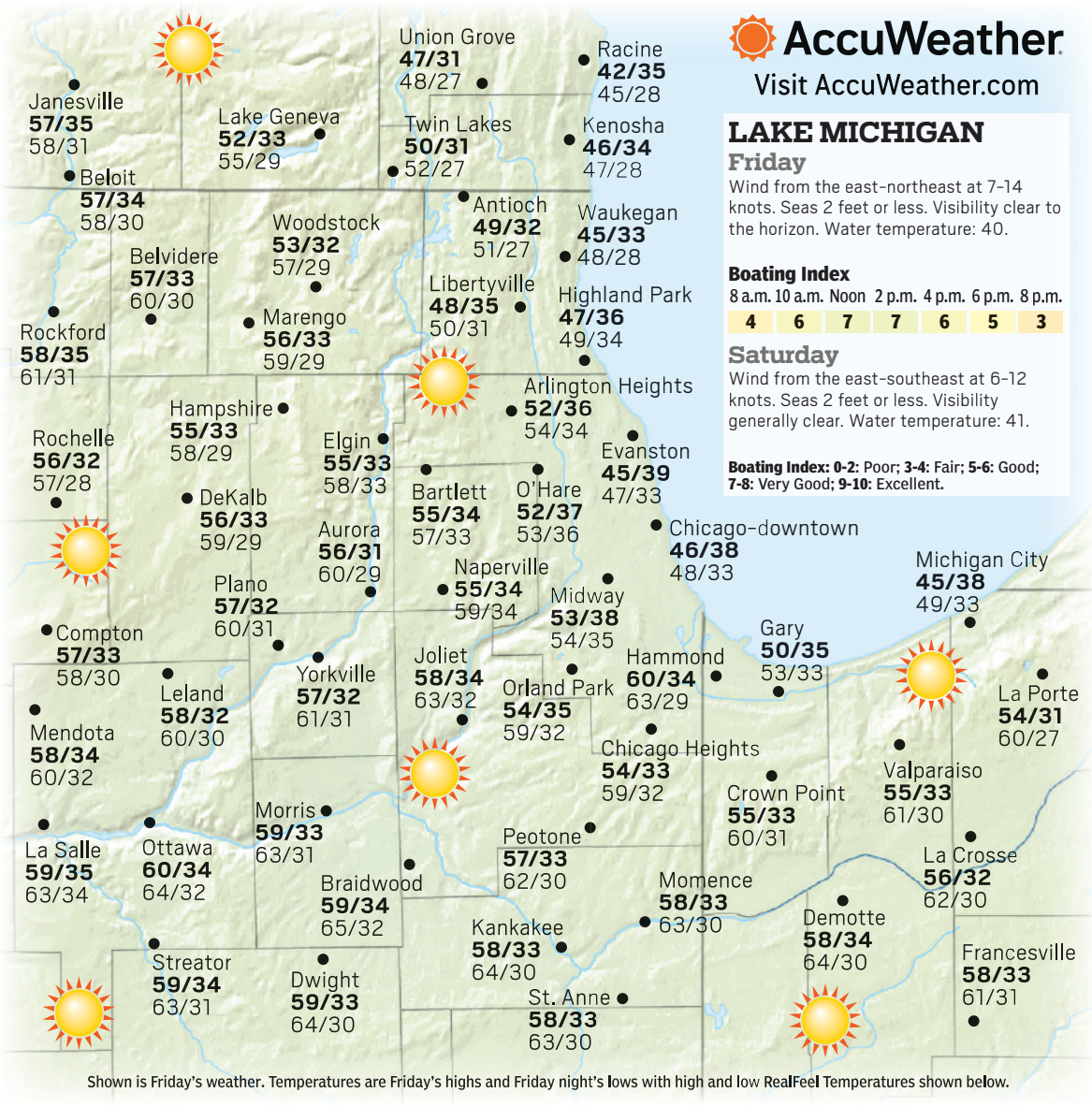
	Fri.	Sat.
Sunrise	6:24 a.m.	6:22 a.m.
Sunset	7:22 p.m.	7:23 p.m.
Moonrise	9:19 p.m.	10:31 p.m.
Moonset	7:06 a.m.	7:32 a.m.

Last	New	First	Full
Apr 13	Apr 19	Apr 27	May 5

Friday's Planet Watch

	Rise	Set
Mercury	6:59 a.m.	9:02 p.m.
Venus	7:59 a.m.	10:43 p.m.
Mars	10:33 a.m.	2:00 a.m.
Jupiter	6:37 a.m.	7:35 p.m.
Saturn	4:50 a.m.	3:32 p.m.

Best viewing times today: Venus: 7:50 p.m. Mars: 7:50 p.m. Jupiter: not visible Saturn: 5:55 a.m. Mercury: 7:50 p.m.



Shown is Friday's weather. Temperatures are Friday's highs and Friday night's lows with high and low RealFeel Temperatures shown below.

AccuWeather

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LAKE MICHIGAN

Friday

Wind from the east-northeast at 7-14 knots. Seas 2 feet or less. Visibility clear to the horizon. Water temperature: 40.

Boating Index

8 a.m.	10 a.m.	Noon	2 p.m.	4 p.m.	6 p.m.	8 p.m.
4	6	7	7	6	5	3

Saturday

Wind from the east-southeast at 6-12 knots. Seas 2 feet or less. Visibility generally clear. Water temperature: 41.

Boating Index: 0-2: Poor; **3-4**: Fair; **5-6**: Good; **7-8**: Very Good; **9-10**: Excellent.

ASK abc7

Jaisol Martinez

QUESTION: How many 90-degree days do we typically get in the summer?

ANSWER: On average, Chicago gets one 90-degree days in May, four in June, seven in July, four in August and two in September. This is based on a a 30-year average from 1991-2020. The warmest month based on average monthly temperature is July with an average monthly temperature of 75.4 degrees. August comes in second at 73.8 degrees.

Do you have a weather question for the ABC 7 team? Submit them at **abc7chicago.com/weather** or send them to:

Ask ABC 7 Weather Team
190 N. State Street
Chicago, IL 60601

NATIONAL FORECAST

AccuWeather Superior Accuracy™ for Better Decisions
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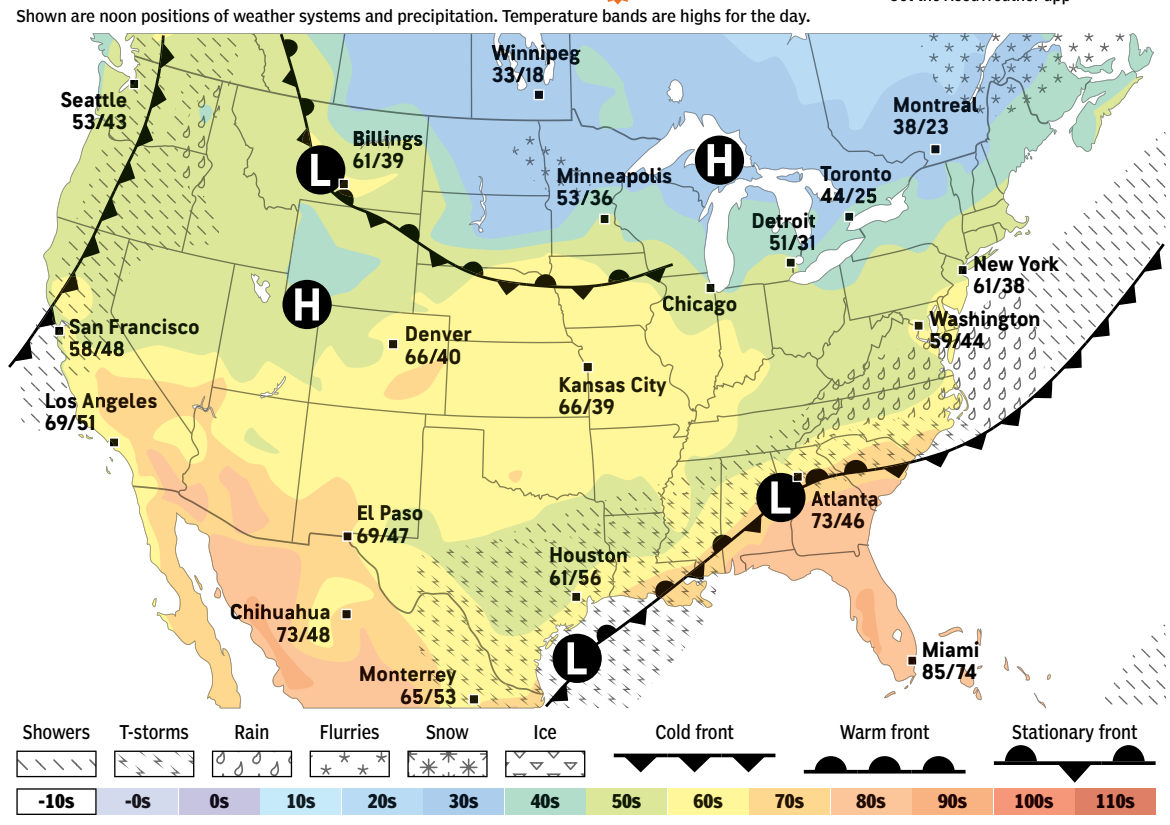
Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.



REGIONAL CITIES

City	Fri. Hi/Lo/W	Sat. Hi/Lo/W
Illinois		
Carbondale	60/38/pc	65/43/s
Champaign	60/33/s	66/36/s
Decatur	60/35/pc	66/39/s
Moline	62/35/s	68/40/s
Peoria	61/36/s	66/39/s
Quincy	61/36/s	66/39/s
Rockford	58/35/s	63/39/pc
Springfield	61/35/s	66/39/s
Sterling	59/34/s	64/39/pc
Indiana		
Bloomington	59/37/pc	64/38/s
Evansville	62/40/pc	67/44/pc
Fort Wayne	55/31/s	59/31/s
Indianapolis	57/36/pc	62/38/s
Lafayette	60/35/s	67/39/s
South Bend	55/33/s	61/36/s
Wisconsin		
Green Bay	43/31/pc	49/34/sn
Kenosha	46/34/s	59/38/s
La Crosse	59/41/s	65/43/c
Madison	56/35/s	61/37/c
Milwaukee	42/35/s	54/38/pc
Wausau	46/31/pc	47/31/c
Michigan		
Detroit	51/31/s	52/34/pc
Grand Rapids	51/31/s	59/31/pc
Marquette	33/17/pc	40/29/pc
Sault Ste. Marie	34/17/pc	44/26/s
Traverse City	41/27/c	47/30/sn
Iowa		
Ames	65/35/s	69/40/s
Cedar Rapids	60/33/s	63/38/pc
Des Moines	64/38/s	68/42/s
Dubuque	58/35/s	61/39/pc

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Fri. Hi/Lo/W	Sat. Hi/Lo/W
Abilene	63/46/sh	74/51/pc
Albany, NY	48/28/pc	53/27/s
Albuquerque	66/44/s	69/47/pc
Amarillo	64/37/pc	73/46/pc
Anchorage	35/20/pc	30/9/sn
Asheville	60/42/r	46/37/r
Aspen	54/29/s	53/28/pc
Atlanta	73/46/t	50/44/r
Atlantic City	58/41/pc	46/39/pc
Austin	54/51/t	66/52/c
Baltimore	59/42/c	53/37/pc
Billings	61/39/c	62/36/c
Birmingham	65/50/t	57/46/r
Bismarck	34/15/c	39/28/pc
Boise	49/35/sh	59/39/c
Boston	57/33/pc	48/34/s
Brownsville	65/59/t	74/65/t
Buffalo	43/27/pc	48/31/s
Burlington, VT	43/26/pc	45/29/pc
Charleston, SC	83/53/t	55/49/r
Charleston, WV	55/37/pc	61/32/pc
Charlotte	65/44/r	50/39/r
Chattanooga	58/50/t	61/49/r
Cheyenne	59/32/s	59/32/c
Cincinnati	58/37/pc	61/38/pc
Cleveland	46/30/s	51/33/s
Colorado Spgs	66/40/s	68/39/pc
Columbia, MO	62/38/pc	67/43/s
Columbia, SC	76/47/t	53/43/r
Columbus, OH	57/32/pc	61/35/s
Concord	51/26/pc	49/24/s
Corpus Christi	62/57/t	72/60/t
Dallas	58/49/sh	65/53/c
Daytona Beach	84/66/pc	84/66/sh
Denver	66/40/s	69/39/c
Duluth	33/23/pc	42/32/pc
El Paso	69/47/pc	79/57/s
Fairbanks	23/2/pc	20/4/sn
Fargo	36/23/sn	43/32/pc
Flagstaff	56/28/s	58/26/s
Fort Myers	90/68/pc	88/70/sh
Fort Smith	67/46/pc	71/46/pc
Fresno	69/49/pc	72/49/pc
Grand Junction	62/39/s	64/39/pc
Great Falls	61/36/c	57/37/c
Harrisburg	57/39/pc	56/37/pc
Hartford	55/32/pc	54/31/s
Helena, MT	57/35/c	57/36/c
Honolulu	83/73/c	83/74/c
Houston	61/56/t	70/59/c
Int'l Falls	41/11/pc	47/33/pc
Jackson, MS	60/56/t	65/53/t
Jacksonville	85/67/sh	82/57/t
Juneau	46/36/r	46/39/r
Kansas City	66/39/s	70/44/s
Las Vegas	74/56/s	79/59/s
Lexington	56/39/pc	61/38/s
Lincoln	68/39/s	73/42/pc
Little Rock	61/47/pc	66/55/r
Los Angeles	69/51/s	69/52/pc
Louisville	61/43/pc	63/43/pc
Macon	85/51/t	53/46/r
Memphis	60/50/pc	64/50/pc
Miami	85/74/pc	84/72/sh
Minneapolis	53/36/pc	63/46/c
Mobile	79/64/t	74/53/t
Montgomery	80/57/t	60/50/t
Nashville	58/48/pc	58/48/c
New Orleans	79/68/t	76/63/t
New York City	61/38/pc	53/39/s
Norfolk	56/49/r	54/47/r
Oklahoma City	66/43/pc	71/47/pc
Omaha	68/41/s	71/46/pc
Orlando	89/65/pc	90/66/sh
Palm Beach	85/73/pc	87/71/sh
Palm Springs	84/57/s	86/62/s
Philadelphia	60/39/pc	55/38/pc
Phoenix	84/57/s	86/59/pc
Pittsburgh	52/29/pc	57/32/s
Portland, ME	53/27/pc	47/29/s
Portland, OR	57/43/r	61/45/c
Providence	59/33/pc	52/31/s
Raleigh	59/44/r	49/40/r
Rapid City	48/20/s	55/32/pc
Reno	54/37/pc	61/40/pc
Richmond	53/44/r	51/38/c
Rochester	42/25/pc	46/29/s
Sacramento	61/44/r	67/44/pc
St. Louis	62/41/pc	65/45/s
Salem, OR	57/42/r	60/45/c
Salt Lake City	55/40/pc	59/41/pc
San Antonio	55/52/t	73/54/c
San Diego	66/53/pc	66/55/pc
San Francisco	58/48/r	63/48/pc
San Juan	81/73/t	83/72/r
Santa Fe	64/35/s	64/39/pc
Savannah	83/58/t	62/47/t
Seattle	53/43/r	54/46/r
Shreveport	53/49/t	65/55/c
Sioux Falls	62/36/s	68/47/pc
Spokane	48/36/r	52/39/c
Syracuse	43/27/pc	47/30/s
Tallahassee	87/66/t	75/55/t
Tampa	88/71/pc	87/71/pc
Topeka	67/37/s	71/44/s
Tucson	84/52/s	84/54/s
Tulsa	70/42/pc	72/48/s
Washington, DC	59/44/c	53/40/pc
Wichita	66/37/s	72/44/pc
Wilkes-Barre	56/30/pc	56/31/pc
Yuma	83/57/s	88/59/s

WORLD CITIES

City	Fri. Hi/Lo/W	Sat. Hi/Lo/W
Acapulco	87/69/s	88/69/s
Algiers	70/40/s	74/45/s
Amsterdam	50/42/c	57/44/pc
Ankara	49/28/t	58/39/pc
Athens	61/47/s	63/47/pc
Auckland	72/58/pc	67/54/r
Baghdad	86/58/pc	91/61/pc
Bangkok	98/83/t	94/79/r
Barbados	86/76/sh	86/76/c
Barcelona	65/51/s	63/50/s
Beijing	62/38/s	72/44/s
Beirut	77/60/s	73/63/c
Berlin	45/41/c	54/41/sh
Bermuda	72/66/pc	74/66/r
Bogota	63/50/sh	63/50/sh
Brussels	51/42/sh	56/38/sh
Bucharest	50/36/c	57/40/c
Budapest	45/37/c	46/38/r
Bueno Aires	74/63/s	75/64/s
Cairo	93/62/s	93/74/c
Cancun	88/70/s	88/70/s
Caracas	88/74/t	88/74/c
Casablanca	81/53/s	77/54/c
Copenhagen	46/38/r	54/39/r
Dublin	55/39/pc	55/44/c
Edmonton	51/34/pc	57/28/pc
Frankfurt	51/38/sh	57/39/sh
Geneva	52/37/sh	58/37/pc
Guadalajara	87/54/s	89/54/s
Havana	90/65/s	88/67/sh
Helsinki	48/26/s	49/30/s
Hong Kong	75/67/c	72/66/sh
Istanbul	54/42/pc	59/47/s
Jerusalem	79/54/s	80/61/pc
Johannesburg	78/58/s	79/58/s
Kabul	65/43/s	70/46/s
Kingston	86/74/pc	86/75/s
Kyiv	55/43/c	56/44/sh
Lima	83/74/pc	83/73/s
Lisbon	75/53/s	77/54/s
London	59/38/pc	61/39/c
Madrid	77/41/s	80/44/s
Manila	93/78/s	93/78/s
Mexico City	82/55/r	82/56/sh
Monterrey	65/53/c	73/58/pc
Montreal	38/23/pc	40/27/s
Moscow	49/30/pc	51/36/pc
Munich	47/35/sh	46/37/sh
Nairobi	81/61/pc	81/60/t
Nassau	84/72/sh	85/72/sh
New Delhi	91/68/pc	93/66/pc
Oslo	49/29/pc	55/34/pc
Ottawa	37/20/pc	41/24/s
Panama City	93/70/r	92/71/pc
Paris	57/40/pc	59/39/c
Prague	46/37/pc	46/34/sh
Rio de Janeiro	80/72/c	80/74/r
Riyadh	87/66/pc	83/59/pc
Rome	61/48/s	60/43/t
Santiago	87/50/s	86/49/s
Seoul	61/32/s	60/35/s
Singapore	85/76/sh	87/76/sh
Sofia	47/32/pc	52/38/pc
Stockholm	41/32/pc	46/21/pc
Sydney	73/59/t	77/59/s
Taipei	66/58/r	72/58/c
Tehran	77/55/s	76/58/s
Tokyo	70/60/r	67/47/sh
Toronto	44/25/pc	44/32/s
Trinidad	86/75/sh	86/75/pc
Vancouver	55/44/r	50/45/sh
Vienna	47/38/c	44/38/r
Warsaw	55/34/r	56/41/sh
Winnipeg	33/18/pc	44/30/c

Weather(W): **s**-sunny, **pc**-partly cloudy, **c**-cloudy, **sh**-showers, **t**-thunderstorms, **r**-rain, **sf**-snow flurries, **sn**-snow, **i**-ice. **POP:** Probability of Precipitation.

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Chicago Tribune
BUSINESS

Atlanta retains title for world's busiest airport

Hartsfield-Jackson saw 93.7M passengers; O'Hare 2nd in number of takeoffs and landings in 2022

By Kelly Yamanouchi
Atlanta Journal-Constitution

ATLANTA — Hartsfield-Jackson International has once again been declared the world's busiest airport, according to an official ranking.

The Atlanta airport with 93.7 million passengers passing through in 2022 had more traffic than any other airport in the world, according to industry group Airports Council International World.

Dallas/Fort Worth International took the No. 2 spot with 73.4 million passengers, while Denver International Airport was third had 69.3 million passengers.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, Atlanta consistently ranked as the world's busiest airport, but Hartsfield-Jackson was briefly surpassed by an airport in Guangzhou, China, in 2020. Atlanta regained its crown a year later.

Hartsfield-Jackson's passenger counts last year were still down 15% from its record 110.5 million passengers in 2019, as airports globally stage a recovery from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

ACI World Director General Luis Felipe de Oliveira said in a written statement that the ranking "reflects the resilience of the airport and aviation industry, and the eagerness of passengers to travel by air."

During the ongoing spring break travel season, long lines, crowds and congestion at Hartsfield-Jackson have made it clear what the effects are for passengers using the world's busiest airport. Airlines, concessionaires and air traffic control have struggled to keep up with heavy volumes of travelers.

In 2022, the Atlanta airport also handled more flights than any other airport in the world, with 724,145 takeoffs and landings in 2022. Chicago O'Hare had the second-highest number of takeoffs and landings with 711,561 in the year.

Other airports abroad handle more cargo and international flights, with Hong Kong International coming in first for cargo tonnage and Dubai International coming in first for international passenger traffic.

"While US airport hubs were able to recover quicker due to their strong domestic market, we are now witnessing global hubs joining upper ranks—including Dubai, Istanbul, and London Heathrow airport," according to de Oliveira. "The re-opening of China, the second-largest aviation market after the US, is now expected to bring an overall gain, both domestically and for international travel."

Gary airport to use federal money for cargo operations

By Carole Carlson
For Post-Tribune

Gary/Chicago International Airport officials, who expect cargo business to take off in the coming decade, celebrated a $6 million funding boost from U.S. Rep. Frank Mrvan, D-Ind, on Wednesday.

Mrvan joined officials at the airport to detail the impact of the funding.

"We want to make sure everyone understands the Gary/Chicago International Airport is open for business," Mrvan said.

Airport executive director Dan Vicari said $4 million is targeted for the design, expansion and construction of a heavy air cargo logistics apron on the airport's west side. There will be room for six or seven planes at once on the apron with facilities behind them for unloading cargo as it's routed on trucks.

As business picks up, Vicari said, there's room for expansion on the apron.

He said $2 million of the funding will be used to install a sanitary sewer to the cargo center to permit de-icing and allow for expansion.

Preconstruction design work is already underway, Vicari said.

Mrvan said the funding came from federal Community Projects money. Locally, about $20 million in funding requests was included in the fiscal 2023 appropriations package, already signed into law.

The airport was the largest funding recipient.

Vicari said the airport ranked third in Indiana in cargo operations, largely because of UPS, which began cargo operations in 2020 and renewed its lease last year. The rankings are done by the Federal Aviation Administration.

UPS officials attended Wednesday's event and were introduced by Vicari.

Mayor Jerome Prince was in Indianapolis on Wednesday on legislative business, but his chief of staff Joy Holliday said Prince considers the funding an important milestone in the effort to expand cargo operations and attract fresh economic development.

An influx of cargo business will have a ripple effect on operations. John Girzadas, president of B. Coleman Aviation, a fixed base operator, said his company has a contract with UPS for fueling. The contract required the hiring of more workers for the nighttime fueling of UPS' Boeing 757 and its Airbus 300.

"Each time I drive by and see the representation of UPS, I'm encouraged," Mrvan said. "I know UPS planes and trucks are there unloading.

"These investments aren't given away, they're earned. We fight and scratch and do whatever we can to create jobs."

Carole Carlson is a freelance reporter for the Post-Tribune.

The former Pioneer Bank building at 4000 W. North Ave. in Chicago on March 2. ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Invest South/West facing 1st challenge

Chicago, Park Row Development sued over alleged mishandling of redevelopment process

By Lizzie Kane
Chicago Tribune

On the heels of a mayoral election that ousted Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot, her signature program, Invest South/West, faces a lawsuit from a developer who alleges wrongdoing in the selection process for redevelopment of the long-vacant Pioneer Bank building and surrounding parcels in Humboldt Park.

The Hispanic Housing Development Corp.'s lawsuit alleges that "the City acted arbitrarily, capriciously, and unfairly in accepting a facially lowball and facially irresponsible bid from Park Row Development LLC, a for-profit entity with no experience in real estate development." The suit also alleges that the project will "cost the taxpayers tens of millions of dollars more than Park Row represented in its bid."

The Hispanic Housing Development Corp. filed the lawsuit — the first to challenge an Invest South/West project — against the city and the Park Row Development team on March 24 in Cook County Circuit Court and requests that the city instead select its firm to redevelop the site. The development corporation was the only other developer who answered the city's request for proposals in 2021.

The lawsuit represents the latest criticism against Lightfoot's Invest South/West program, an initiative by her administration to revitalize historically neglected neighborhoods on the South and West sides. The program, which the Lightfoot administration has touted as never having been done before, has faced backlash from community members, aldermen and developers.

"It is not a matter for us of bitter fruit; it is a matter for us of something fair and just," said Hipolito "Paul" Roldán, president and CEO of the Hispanic Housing Development Corp. "You can't have a city the size of Chicago cheating. ... The whole thrust of Invest South/West is community-oriented, community wealth building, community enhancement of development capabilities the community has ... (This) is an indictment of the whole Invest South/West program."

The city's Department of Law told the Tribune in an emailed statement Wednesday that the city does not comment on pending litigation.

Matt Mosher, partner and co-founder of Park Row Development, told the Tribune Monday that "We are saddened and disappointed to have this claim filed against us to stop our project" and declined to comment further until the legal process is complete.

The first court hearing was originally scheduled for July 25, but the Hispanic Housing Development Corp. received a revised hearing date of April 10 after requesting an emergency hearing, according to Paul Balik, the attorney representing the development corporation.

Balik said this request for an earlier hearing was made because his client wants to stop the city from further greenlighting the redevelopment, and a vote to approve Park Row Development's $13 million request in tax increment financing dollars for phase one of its project is expected to come in the City Council's next meeting scheduled for April 19. Tax increment financing dollars are funds that developers can access to make infrastructure and other community improvements by tapping into money pooled together by neighborhood property taxes —

Built in 1924, the Pioneer Bank at 4000 W. North Ave., features Classical Revival-style architecture that helped it earn its 2012 historic landmark designation.

Included in the city's request for proposal in April 2021 was not only the task of redeveloping the Pioneer Bank, but also an adjacent two-story building and eight separate vacant lots, all of which fall between 4000 to 4008 W. North Ave. and 1616 to 1638 N. Pulaski Road.

When Park Row Development was selected by the city in November 2021 to spearhead the project in Humboldt Park, the developer expected the total costs to be $53.9 million, with the redevelopment of the Pioneer Bank and its next door building to cost around $21 million.

In the first phase of development, the 50,000-square-foot Pioneer Bank building will be renovated into commercial office space that will likely include two nonprofits — BTEC, which specializes in workforce management and career training, and Arquitectos, a professional resource organization for Latino architects — and the headquarters of JGMA, an architecture firm and co-developer of the project, according to a March 15 announcement of the TIF proposal to the City Council.

Next door, at 4008 W. North Ave, the Pioneer Bank Annex building is slated to become a restaurant and cafe, as stated in the March 15 announcement.

The city announcement said that the second phase of the project, located at a parking lot north of the bank along North Pulaski Road, will be the site of new affordable housing. The Tribune previously reported in 2021 that the plans include 75 units of affordable housing, offices for Humboldt Park Family Health and a potential library branch serving the West Side neighborhood.

The developer declined to answer questions from the Tribune regarding its exact plans for the redevelopment project until after the lawsuit is resolved.

One of the Department of Planning and Development's stated goals in the April 2021 document for the Humboldt Park development was that it was "seeking a developer with experience in Chicago's Humboldt Park community and/or similar communities."

"It is not a matter for us of bitter fruit; it is a matter for us of something fair and just. You can't have a city the size of Chicago cheating. ... The whole thrust of Invest South/West is community-oriented, community wealth building, community enhancement of development capabilities the community has."

— Hipolito "Paul" Roldán, president and CEO of the Hispanic Housing Development Corp.

Park Row Development was founded in October 2020 and declined to answer the Tribune's questions regarding its development history during the ongoing litigation. Hispanic Housing Development Corp. was founded in 1975 and has more than 15 years of experience building hundreds of affordable housing units in Humboldt Park.

Some Humboldt Park residents told the Tribune that their support was behind the Hispanic Housing Development Corp.'s proposal because it met more of the community's desires articulated in the request for proposal.

While consulting with the Department of Planning and Development, community leaders and Ald. Roberto Maldonado

Turn to Lawsuit, *Page 2*

FDA orders withdrawal of premature birth drug

Data shows that Makena, on market for years, doesn't help pregnant women

By Matthew Perrone
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Food and Drug Administration on Thursday ordered the immediate market withdrawal of a drug intended to prevent premature births, which has remained available for years despite data showing it doesn't help pregnant women.

The decision follows repeated efforts by Swiss drugmaker Covis Pharma to keep Makena on the U.S. market while it conducted additional studies. The medication was the only drug approved in the U.S. to help reduce the risk of early births in women with a history of preterm deliveries.

In recent months, Covis finally bowed to FDA pressure, proposing a "winding down" period of several months so that women taking the drug could complete their treatment. The FDA rejected that and said Thursday that the action against Makena and several generic versions should take effect immediately.

"Makena and its generics are no longer approved and cannot lawfully be distributed in interstate commerce," the agency said in a statement.

The injectable drug is a synthetic version of the hormone progesterone, which helps the uterus sustain pregnancy. It can cause side effects, including blood clots, depression and allergic reactions. Given those risks, FDA staffers previously concluded there was no upside to keeping the drug available, given its lack of confirmed benefit.

The final decision by FDA Commissioner Robert Califf and the agency's chief scientist marks the first time the agency formally forced the removal of a drug that it initially approved based on promising early data. In all prior cases, drugmakers voluntarily pulled medications after the FDA made clear it intended to order removal.

The FDA expedited Makena's approval in 2011 based on a small study suggesting it reduced rates of premature birth in women who had previously had trouble bringing a pregnancy to term. But results from a 1,700-participant study completed in late 2018 showed the drug neither reduced premature births — as originally thought — nor resulted in healthier outcomes for babies.

The FDA has been working to get the drug off the market since then, though Covis repeatedly appealed for more time to conduct further research.

In October, the company failed to convince a panel of outside FDA advisers that the drug should stay on the market for women who face higher risks of early deliveries, including Black women.

About 10% of U.S. births come too early — before 37 weeks, raising the risk of serious health problems and even death in infants.

Women who have a current prescription for the drug should direct any questions to their doctor, the agency said.

Researchers and government watchdogs have chronicled problems with FDA's oversight, including delays in quickly removing drugs with failed or missing confirmatory studies. In the last two years the FDA has stepped up efforts to remove unproven approvals, mainly from cancer therapies.

Bryan Sievers passes a manure-converting biodigester tank March 24 on his farm in Stockton, Iowa. **LYNDON FRENCH/THE NEW YORK TIMES**

New farm-to-fuel incentives

Inflation Reduction Act offers stimulus to use agricultural products as energy sources

By Keith Schneider
The New York Times

Despite federal and state programs to convert corn into ethanol and soybeans into biodiesel to fuel cars and trucks, the United States has never before regarded farming as a primary energy producer.

That changed when Congress in August passed the climate provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act, which provides $140 billion in tax incentives, loans and grants to replace fossil fuels with renewable energy that lowers emissions of carbon dioxide.

Along with the wind and the sun, the raw materials needed for a significant portion of that energy come from agriculture — alcohol from fermenting corn, and methane from the billions of gallons of liquid and millions of tons of solid manure produced by big dairy, swine and poultry operations.

Despite opposition from environmental groups concerned about increased pollution from farm waste, developers across the country see opportunities to build ambitious renewable energy projects to convert crops and agricultural waste to low-carbon energy.

"There is not a single renewable energy producer in the country that is not looking at or already taking steps to install new technology, expand their facilities, or thinking about building new plants in response to the federal tax incentives passed last year," said Geoff Cooper, the president and CEO of the Renewable Fuels Association, an industry trade group.

In January, Avapco, a biofuel company that operates an ethanol refinery in Thomaston, Georgia, was awarded an $80 million grant by the Department of Energy to build a plant capable of producing 1.2 million gallons of jet fuel a year from wood chips. And on a 2,500-acre site near Hennepin, Illinois, Marquise Energy is collaborating with LanzaJet to build an ethanol and biodiesel plant to produce aviation fuel.

But environmental groups are wary about the additional waste the effort might produce. Phosphorus and nitrogen discharges from U.S. farms are "the single greatest challenge to our nation's water quality," according to the Environmental Protection Agency. More corn, the most heavily fertilized crop, and more manure from larger livestock and poultry operations could increase nutrient pollution.

Thousands of large livestock operations are also poised to take advantage of the tax benefits and subsidies. The American Biogas Council, an industry trade group, counts 2,300 biodigesters in operation in the United States that convert organic wastes to methane to burn in power plants or be used as transportation fuel. With tax credits in the new climate law, the council envisions the installation of 15,000 more, including 8,600 on large dairy, hog and poultry farms.

Missouri's Roeslein Alternative Energy is building six biodigesters at large cattle and swine operations in Iowa and Missouri to produce methane for transportation fuel and electricity. The construction, paid for by the company, is part of an $80 million carbon-reducing demonstration project funded by the Department of Agriculture to produce methane from manure mixed with prairie grasses planted on marginal lands.

The $14 million expansion of an existing biodigester is underway on Bryan Sievers' cattle farm in Scott County, Iowa. "It's a new pathway for mixing conservation farming and energy production that farmers will adopt as fast as society accepts it," he said.

NPR balks at Twitter's labeling of news outlet

By David Bauder
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Twitter's decision this week to label National Public Radio as "state-affiliated media" on the social media site has some worried that the move could undermine public confidence in the news organization.

NPR said it was disturbed to see the description added to all of the tweets it sends out, with John Lansing, its president and CEO, calling it "unacceptable for Twitter to label us this way."

It was unclear why Twitter made the move. Twitter's owner, Elon Musk, quoted a definition of state-affiliated media in the company's guidelines as "outlets where the state exercises control over editorial content through financial resources, direct or indirect political pressures, and/or control over production and distribution."

"Seems accurate," Musk tweeted in a reply to NPR.

NPR does receive U.S. government funding through grants from federal agencies and departments, along with the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. The company said it accounts for less than 1% of NPR's annual operating budget. But until Wednesday, the same Twitter guidelines said that "state-financed media organizations with editorial independence, like the BBC in the UK or NPR in the United States, are not defined as state-affiliated media for the purposes of this policy."

NPR has now been removed from that sentence on Twitter's website.

Asked for comment, Twitter's press office responded with an automated poop emoji.

The literary organization PEN America, in calling for Twitter to reverse the decision, said the action was "a dangerous move that could further undermine public confidence in reliable news sources."

BUSINESS BRIEFING

Mortgage rate drops to 6.28%

The average long-term U.S. mortgage rate dipped for the fourth consecutive week, a good sign for potential homebuyers and a real estate market that's been mostly cold since the Federal Reserve began raising interest rates more than a year ago.

Mortgage buyer Freddie Mac reported Thursday that the average on the benchmark 30-year rate dipped to 6.28% from 6.32% the previous week. The average rate last year at this time was 4.72%.

The average long-term mortgage rate hit 7.08% in the fall — a two-decade high.

The national median home price slipped 0.2% from February last year to $363,000, marking the first annual decline in 13 years, according to the National Association of Realtors.

IMF foresees dip in global growth

WASHINGTON — The International Monetary Fund chief said Thursday the world economy is expected to grow less than 3% this year, down from 3.4% last year, increasing the risk of hunger and poverty globally.

Kristalina Georgieva said the period of slower economic activity will be prolonged, with the next five years of growth remaining around 3%, calling it "our lowest medium-term growth forecast since 1990, and well below the average of 3.8% from the past two decades."

Georgieva said slower growth would make it even harder for low-income nations to catch up. "Poverty and hunger could further increase, a dangerous trend that was started by the COVID crisis," she said.

Lawsuit

from Page 1

of the 26th Ward created a list of potential uses for the various parcels to be developed under the moniker of the "Latino Cultural and Community Hub," according to the April 2021 request for proposals document from the Department of Planning and Development.

The document states that the Pioneer Bank redevelopment must feature some of all of the following: a community theater or function space for cultural and special events; a center for local arts and culture; a branch location for the Chicago Public Library; a business incubator for entrepreneurs; and an empowerment center for youth and families with computer labs, study areas and meeting spaces.

Milka Ramírez, who was born in Puerto Rico and came to Humboldt Park with her family when she was 1, is the co-founder of En Las Tablas Performing Arts, an organization that was included in the Hispanic Housing Development Corp.'s project plans.

Located in the nearby Hermosa neighborhood, Ramírez's organization would have expanded its arts classes to Humboldt Park and brought other smaller arts organizations to its new space.

While Ramírez's organization is now expanding at the site of its current location, she said she hopes the lawsuit will bring transparency to the Invest South/West selection process "so that proposals are (evaluated) in a way that is ... embedded in integrity and that honors the voice of our communities," something that she says did not happen with the Pioneer Bank request for proposals.

"It was my understanding that the community overwhelmingly supported the RFP with Hispanic Housing," Ramírez said. "I can't help but think that there were other political powers in place that intervened in the community being able to exercise their voice."

William "Bill" Smiljanic-Perez was one of the three community members on the request for proposals selection committee, which he said also included six city officials. He said he thinks what the selection process ultimately came down to was the costs of the proposed development projects, with Park Row Development asking for the lower amount of public subsidy.

The Hispanic Housing Development Corp.'s estimated costs came out to $66.7 million, nearly $13 million more than Park Row Development's estimates.

Smiljanic-Perez called the process "political" and said that it "sickened" him to see the city tout Invest South/West as an initiative that listens to community members.

"When you are behind the scenes, and you see what is done, it is status quo. ... They have to do what the alderman wants ... and do what is a win for the mayor's office," Smiljanic-Perez said, who is a board member of Humboldt Park community group Noble Neighbors. "This is not a win for the community."

Newly elected 26th Ward Ald. Jessie Fuentes — who was also one of three community members on the request for proposal committee — declined to comment on the lawsuit. Outgoing Ald. Roberto Maldonado did not return Tribune requests for comment.

Roldan, founder of the Hispanic Housing Development Corp., said the issue is a broader one than the lawsuit. He says it is about fairness, equity and justice.

"There's a phrase in Chicago: 'We will only give the job to somebody that somebody sent,' " Roldan said.

"Somebody with political influence sent these people so that's what qualifies them as opposed to do they meet the requirements of the RFP and the standards of being a legitimate developer."

Chicago Tribune's Robert Channick and Gregory Pratt contributed.

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Who's Who in Local Business: Have a promotion or hire you'd like to tell the world about? Go to **placeanad.chicagotribune.com/whos-who**

A woman looks at the Torrent Power coal plant last month in Ahmedabad, India. New coal plants were added in 14 countries, including India, in 2022, a report notes. **AJIT SOLANKI/AP**

Global coal capacity climbs despite promises to cut back

By Sibi Arasu
Associated Press

The capacity to burn coal for power went up in 2022 despite global promises to phase down the fuel that's the biggest source of planet-warming gases in the atmosphere, a report this week found.

The coal fleet grew by 19.5 gigawatts last year, enough to light up around 15 million homes, with nearly all newly commissioned coal projects in China, according to a report by Global Energy Monitor, an organization that tracks a variety of energy projects around the globe.

That 1% increase comes at a time when the world needs to retire its coal fleet four and a half times faster to meet climate goals, the report said Wednesday. In 2021, countries around the world promised to phase down the use of coal to help achieve the goal to limit warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 Fahrenheit).

"The more new coal projects come online, the steeper the cuts and commitments need to be in the future," said Flora Champenois, the report's lead author and the project manager for GEM's Global Coal Plant Tracker.

New coal plants were added in 14 countries and eight countries announced new coal projects.

China, India, Indonesia, Turkey and Zimbabwe were the only countries that both added new coal plants and announced new projects.

China accounted for 92% of all new coal project announcements.

China added 26.8 gigawatts and India added about 3.5 gigawatts of new coal power capacity to their electricity grids.

China also gave clearance for nearly 100 gigawatts of new coal power projects with construction likely to begin this year.

But "the long term trajectory is still towards clean energy," said Shantanu Srivastava, an energy analyst with the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis who is based in New Delhi.

Srivastava said the coronavirus pandemic and the war in Ukraine temporarily drove some nations toward fossil fuels.

In Europe, where the Russian invasion of Ukraine meant a scramble for alternative energy sources and droughts stifled hydropower, the continent only saw a very minor increase in coal use.

Others went the other way.

There were significant shutdowns in the U.S., where 13.5 gigawatts of coal power was retired. It's one of 17 countries that closed up plants in the past year.

With nearly 2,500 plants around the world, coal accounts for about a third of the total amount of energy installations globally. Other fossil fuels, nuclear energy and renewable energy make up the rest.

To meet climate goals set in the 2015 Paris Agreement, coal plants in rich countries need to be retired by 2030 and coal plants in developing countries need to be shut down by 2040, according to the International Energy Agency. That means around 117 gigawatts of coal need to be retired every year, but only 26 gigawatts were retired in 2022.

"At this rate, the transition away from existing and new coal isn't happening fast enough to avoid climate chaos," Champenois said.

Srivastava added that its important to make sure the millions employed in coal and other dirty industries are not left behind when transitioning to clean energy, although that gets more difficult the more coal projects get locked in.

Housing prices spark worry for Hawaiians about future

By Audrey McAvoy
Associated Press

Tedorian Gallano and his wife, Nicole, stand outside the home in Waianae, Hawaii, shared by eight members from three generations of his extended family. **AUDREY MCAVOY/AP**

WAIANAE, Hawaii — Tedorian Gallano would like to buy a house for his wife and three youngest children in Hawaii, but real estate prices soared so high eight years ago he moved his family back to his childhood home outside Honolulu — and last year, his older brother followed suit.

Now, eight members from three generations of Gallano's extended family share one bathroom in a house that's so packed they've jerry-rigged an extra bedroom in the garage. Buying a home is "pretty much unattainable for the average working family" in Hawaii, the 49-year-old carpenter said.

"We always seem to have these hot markets that drive the prices up, and then it's the hardworking local families that cannot buy houses who are kind of left out," said Gallano, who's a member of the carpenters' union that's been active on the issue.

Gallano's situation is emblematic of the acute affordable housing crisis afflicting Hawaii, a problem so deep that there's now widespread concern that many of Hawaii's children won't be able to afford to live there as adults. Many residents are fearful their entire state — a diverse and culturally vibrant society with unique values and a complex identity — is being gentrified before their eyes as home prices soar.

The median price of a single-family home topped $1 million in most areas of Hawaii during the coronavirus pandemic and has declined only modestly since. The state has the fourth-highest per capita rate of homelessness in the nation after California, Vermont and Oregon. Last week, new data showed the islands experienced net population loss five of the last six years. In 2022, U.S. census data showed more Native Hawaiians live outside Hawaii than within.

Now, amid growing urgency, both the governor and Hawaii's legislative leaders are making housing a top priority.

In one of his first moves after taking office in January, Democratic Gov. Josh Green created a new housing czar to oversee the effort. One thing Chief Housing Officer Nani Medeiros is focused on is identifying roadblocks and redundant permitting at local and state levels that can hold up construction. The administration also wants to pour $1 billion into housing programs, including $450 million to subsidize the construction of affordable dwellings.

Lawmakers have sponsored bills to trim bureaucracy, fund public housing renovations and encourage construction of dense housing on state land next to Honolulu's planned rail line.

Determined to find solutions, a college student taking a break during COVID-19 and a recent college graduate co-founded a nonprofit advocacy organization called Housing Hawaii's Future to lobby on the issue. Nearly 1,500 people have signed their pledge to back more housing.

"It really bothers me that we are saying to the young people of Hawaii, 'It's great that you might have been born and raised and educated here, but now that you've become an adult, you have to leave, and you cannot come back,'" said state Sen. Stanley Chang, a Democrat who chairs the Senate housing committee.

Some moves to shore up affordable housing by easing development regulations are being met with trepidation by conservationists, who warn that going too far in that direction could endanger the islands' world-famous ecosystems and farmland.

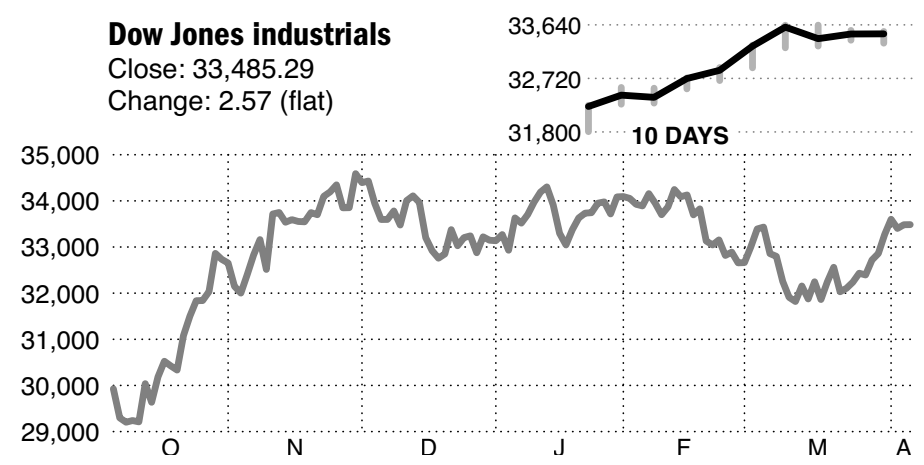
But currently, housing construction is not keeping up with demand. Only 1,000 to 2,000 new housing units are being built in Hawaii each year. Those numbers are dwarfed by the 50,000 new units a 2019 state-commissioned study estimated would be needed by 2025.

In contrast, in 1973, Honolulu approved permits for some 13,700 housing units, and the state's three other main counties approved more than 4,000, said Paul Brewbaker, an economics consultant with TZ Economics.

In extreme cases, developers face backlogs of years, or even decades.

MARKET ROUNDUP

Dow High: 33,525.96 Low: 33,325.37 Previous: 33,482.72



Nasdaq	
+91.10 (+.76%)	
Close	12,087.96
High	12,098.50
Low	11,898.36
Previous	11,996.86

S&P 500	
+14.64 (+.36%)	
Close	4,105.02
High	4,107.32
Low	4,069.84
Previous	4,090.38

Russell 2000	
+2.33 (+.13%)	
Close	1,754.46
High	1,758.43
Low	1,744.50
Previous	1,752.13

10-yr T-note	Gold futures	Yen	Euro	Crude Oil
-.01	-9.00	+.66	-.0018	+.09
to 3.30%	to $2,011.90	to 131.77/$1	to .9149/$1	to $80.70

Major market growth and decline

5-day % change			30-day % change			1-year % change		
DOW	NASD	S&P	DOW	NASD	S&P	DOW	NASD	S&P
+1.91	+.62	+1.34	+3.81	+6.61	+4.76	-3.18	-13.02	-8.78

FUTURES

COMMODITY	AMOUNT-PRICE	MO.	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	SETTLE	CHG.
WHEAT (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	May 23	682.25	685	671.25	675.50	-6.50
		Jul 23	695	697.50	684.25	688	-6.75
CORN (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	May 23	652.25	652.50	641.75	643.50	-9.25
		Jul 23	627	627.25	619	619.75	-7.75
SOYBEANS (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	May 23	1510	1510.25	1483.25	1492.50	-18.50
		Jul 23	1478.50	1479.75	1455.75	1462.50	-15.25
SOYBEAN OIL (CBOT)	60,000 lbs- cents per lb	May 23	55.22	55.34	54.04	54.53	-.69
		Jul 23	55.44	55.57	54.28	54.73	-.71
SOYBEAN MEAL (CBOT)	100 tons- dollars per ton	May 23	450.60	455.40	445.40	454.30	+3.70
		Jul 23	447.00	450.30	442.80	449.70	+2.90
LIGHT SWEET CRUDE (NYMX)	1,000 bbl.- dollars per bbl.	May 23	80.37	80.96	79.65	80.70	+.09
		Jun 23	80.45	80.97	79.69	80.68	+.05
NATURAL GAS (NYMX)	10,000 mm btu's, $ per mm btu	May 23	2.141	2.181	1.992	2.011	-.144
		Jun 23	2.375	2.400	2.220	2.238	-.143
NY HARBOR GAS BLEND (NYMX)	42,000 gallons- dollars per gallon	May 23	2.8211	2.8428	2.7888	2.8133	-.0068
		Jun 23	2.7545	2.7699	2.7252	2.7499	-.0006

Source: The Associated Press

LOCAL STOCKS

Stocks listed may change due to daily fluctuations in market capitalization. *Exchange key: N=NYSE, O=NASDAQ*

STOCK	XCHG.	CLOSE	CHG.	STOCK	XCHG.	CLOSE	CHG.	STOCK	XCHG.	CLOSE	CHG.
Abbott Labs	N	104.93	+.72	Equity Lifesty Prop	N	67.04	+.51	Middleby Corp	O	136.13	-1.80
AbbVie Inc	N	161.55	+.75	Equity Residential	N	60.14	+.53	Mondelez Intl	O	71.05	-.35
Allstate Corp	N	115.22	+.34	Exelon Corp	O	43.06	+.13	Morningstar Inc	O	206.01	+4.14
Aptargroup Inc	N	119.06	-.02	Federal Signal	N	50.53	-.37	Motorola Solutions	N	283.46	-2.68
Arch Dan Mid	N	78.74	-.67	First Indl RT	N	52.13	+.28	NiSource Inc	N	28.82	+.13
Baxter Intl	N	42.30	+.04	Fortune Brands Innov	N	55.50	+.41	Nthn Trust Cp	O	86.73	-.81
Boeing Co	N	211.37	+1.37	GATX	N	108.38	+.26	Old Republic	N	24.92	+.16
Brunswick Corp	N	76.21	-1.28	Gallagher AJ	N	197.37	+2.09	Packaging Corp Am	N	141.15	+.76
CBOE Global Markets	N	136.02	+.40	Grainger WW	N	641.66	-4.59	Paylocity Hldg	O	187.62	+.03
CCC Intellig Solut	O	8.68	-.02	Hyatt Hotels Corp	N	108.11	+.47	RLI Corp	N	130.95	+.37
CDW Corp	O	185.50	-2.47	IDEX Corp	N	216.77	-1.07	Ryan Specialty Group	N	41.47	+.93
CF Industries	N	71.46	-1.70	ITW	N	227.70	-1.71	Stericycle Inc	O	41.73	-.34
CME Group	O	195.10	-.09	Ingredion Inc	N	101.67	-.21	TransUnion	N	61.44	+1.11
CNA Financial	N	38.91	+.22	John Bean Technol	N	102.35	+.02	US Foods Holding	N	36.40	+.10
Caterpillar Inc	N	209.17	-4.36	Jones Lang LaSalle	N	138.14	-.08	Ulta Salon Cosmetics	O	520.95	-13.17
ConAgra Brands Inc	N	38.38	+.11	Kemper Corp	N	56.44	+.41	United Airlines Hldg	O	42.66	+.63
Deere Co	N	369.65	-4.17	Kraft Heinz Co	O	39.14	+.12	Ventas Inc	N	42.63	+.66
Discover Fin Svcs	N	97.02	-.38	LKQ Corporation	O	54.41	+.14	Walgreen Boots Alli	O	35.78	-.34
Dover Corp	N	141.57	-1.32	Littelfuse Inc	O	250.59	-1.74	Wintrust Financial	O	71.05	+.92
Envestnet Inc	N	62.15	+2.43	McDonalds Corp	N	282.89	+.87	Zebra Tech	O	300.26	+.11

MOST ACTIVE STOCKS

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

STOCK	CLOSE	CHG.
AMC Entertainment A	4.90	+.85
Bank of America	27.84	+.20
Ford Motor	12.33	-.10
AT&T Inc	19.65	+.05
Schwab Corp	49.35	+.48
Carnival Corp	9.73	+.07
Alibaba Group Hldg	102.74	+4.19
Finance of America	1.93	+.45
Pfizer Inc	41.50	-.05
Skillz Inc	.68	+.13
Wells Fargo & Co	37.90	+1.01
Palantir Technol	8.09	+.11
Fst Republic Bank	14.03	+.59
Banco Bradesco ADS	2.59	-.05
Verizon Comm	39.48	+.02
Ginkgo Bioworks Hldg	1.35	+.12
Levi Strauss & Co	15.14	-2.89
Ambev S.A.	2.84	+.02
Itau Unibanco Hldg	4.80	-.02
Keycorp	11.91	+.35
Barrick Gold	19.73	+.05
Snap Inc A	10.56	+.17
Exxon Mobil Corp	115.05	-1.94
Vale SA	15.10	-.08

NASDAQ STOCK MARKET

STOCK	CLOSE	CHG.
Mullen Automotive	.10	+.00
Virgin Orbit Hldgs	.20	+.00
Tesla Inc	185.06	-.46
Bed Bath &Beynd	.31	-.03
Alphabet Inc A	108.42	+3.95
Exela Technologies	.04	-.00
Adv Micro Dev	92.47	-.09
Apple Inc	164.66	+.90
Amazon.com Inc	102.06	+.96
Nvidia Corporation	270.37	+1.56
Alphabet Inc C	108.90	+3.95
Plug Power Inc	9.27	-.41
Faraday Fut Intllgnt	.29	+.00
Microsoft Corp	291.60	+7.26
Intel Corp	32.81	-.02
Meta Platforms Inc	216.10	+4.62
SoFi Technologies	5.75	+.01
Integrity Apllicatio	1.19	+.84
IQIYI Inc	6.71	+.07
Guardforce AI Co Ltd	12.75	+3.86
Warner Bros Disc A	15.11	+.32
Micron Tech	58.56	+1.66
Comcast Corp A	37.69	-.23
VistaGen Therap	.14	+.00

FOREIGN MARKETS

INDEX	CLOSE	CHG./%
Shanghai	3312.63	+.1/...
Stoxx600	458.92	+2.3/+.5
Nikkei	27472.63	-340.6/-1.2
MSCI-EAFE	2099.92	-1.9/-.1
Bovespa	100821.73	-156.1/-.2
FTSE 100	7741.56	+78.6/+1.0
CAC-40	7324.75	+8.5/+.1

LARGEST COMPANIES

Based on market capitalization

STOCK	CLOSE	CHG.
Alphabet Inc C	108.90	+3.95
Alphabet Inc A	108.42	+3.95
Amazon.com Inc	102.06	+.96
Apple Inc	164.66	+.90
Berkshire Hath B	312.51	+2.12
Eli Lilly	368.29	+6.05
Exxon Mobil Corp	115.05	-1.94
JPMorgan Chase	127.47	-.14
Johnson & Johnson	165.15	-.46
Meta Platforms Inc	216.10	+4.62
Microsoft Corp	291.60	+7.26
Novo Nordisk AS	159.36	+1.46
Nvidia Corporation	270.37	+1.56
Procter & Gamble	152.22	+.96
Taiwan Semicon	90.24	+.04
Tesla Inc	185.06	-.46
Unitedhealth Group	512.81	+3.58
Visa Inc	225.99	-2.18
WalMart Strs	150.80	+1.13

TREASURY YIELDS

DURATION	CLOSE	PREV.
3-month Disc	4.77	4.72
6-month disc	4.74	4.63
2-year	3.83	3.80
10-year	3.30	3.31
30-year	3.55	3.57

SPOT METALS

	CLOSE	PREV.
Gold	$2011.90	$2020.90
Silver	$25.025	$24.963
Platinum	$1006.90	$997.50

INTEREST RATES

Prime Rate	8.00
Discount Rate Primary	5.50
Fed Funds Target	4.75-5.00
Money Mkt Overnight Avg.	0.49

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

A U.S. Dollar buys . . .

Argentina (Peso)	211.2825
Australia (Dollar)	1.4970
Brazil (Real)	5.0555
Britain (Pound)	.8029
Canada (Dollar)	1.3471
China (Yuan)	6.8759
Euro	.9149
India (Rupee)	81.840
Israel (Shekel)	3.6144
Japan (Yen)	131.77
Mexico (Peso)	18.2350
Poland (Zloty)	4.29
So. Korea (Won)	1317.52
Taiwan (Dollar)	30.51
Thailand (Baht)	34.07

LARGEST MUTUAL FUNDS

Based on total assets

FUND	NAV	CHG IN $	1-YR %RTN
American Funds AmrcnBalA m	29.63	+.03	-4.7
American Funds AmrcnMutA m	48.86	+.14	-3.5
American Funds CptWldGrIncA m	54.57	+.14	-4.1
American Funds CptlIncBldrA m	64.36	+.15	-2.9
American Funds FdmtlInvsA m	63.46	+.14	-5.8
American Funds GrfAmrcA m	54.46	+.15	-13.0
American Funds IncAmrcA m	22.82	+.03	-3.7
American Funds InvCAmrcA m	43.69	+.15	-5.0
American Funds NwPrspctvA m	51.84	+.14	-8.2
American Funds WAMtInvsA m	52.60	+.10	-4.8
Baird AggrgateBdInstl	9.93	...	-2.3
Dodge & Cox Incl	12.56	...	-1.2
Dodge & Cox IntlStkI	46.30	+.40	+1.5
Dodge & Cox Stkl	216.93	+.89	-5.7
Fidelity 500IdxInsPrm	142.47	+.54	-6.8
Fidelity BCGrowth	132.73	+.68	-14.3
Fidelity Contrafund	13.38	+.08	-9.1
Fidelity GlobalexUSIdx	13.25	+.02	-3.1
Fidelity GroCo	26.09	+.20	-11.4
Fidelity IntlIdxInstlPrm	44.93	+.08	+1.5
Fidelity InvmGradeBd	10.19	...	-2.0
Fidelity TtlMktIdxInsPrm	113.14	+.39	-8.0
Fidelity USBdIdxInsPrm	10.53	-.01	-2.5
Metropolitan West TtlRetBdI	9.38	-.01	-3.3
PIMCO IncInstl	10.50	...	-.1
PIMCO TtlRetIns	8.74	...	-3.5
Schwab SP500Idx	62.88	...	-8.1
Vanguard 500IdxAdmrl	378.83	+1.43	-6.8
Vanguard BalIdxAdmrl	41.57	+.09	-5.6
Vanguard DivGrInv	35.40	+.07	-2.6
Vanguard EqIncAdmrl	82.81	+.02	-2.8
Vanguard GrIdxAdmrl	127.35	+.83	-11.4
Vanguard HCAdmrl	88.87	+.64	+2.2
Vanguard InTrTEAdmrl	13.69	+.02	+2.1
Vanguard InsIdxIns	342.74	+1.29	-6.8
Vanguard InsIdxInsPlus	342.74	+1.30	-6.8
Vanguard IntlGrAdmrl	100.44	+.34	-7.2
Vanguard MdCpIdxAdmrl	256.46	+.20	-10.4
Vanguard PrmCpAdmrl	140.39	+.94	-2.9
Vanguard STInvmGrdAdmrl	10.13	...	+.9
Vanguard SmCpIdxAdmrl	88.57	+.06	-9.5
Vanguard TrgtRtr2020Fd	26.67	+.04	-3.9
Vanguard TrgtRtr2025Fd	17.61	+.03	-4.6
Vanguard TrgtRtr2030Fd	33.21	+.07	-5.0
Vanguard TrgtRtr2035Fd	20.52	+.04	-5.3
Vanguard TrgtRtr2040Fd	36.12	+.08	-5.5
Vanguard TrgtRtr2045Fd	24.29	+.06	-5.8
Vanguard TrgtRtr2050Fd	40.27	+.11	-5.8
Vanguard TrgtRtr2055Fd	44.93	+.12	-5.8
Vanguard TrgtRtrIncFd	12.77	+.01	-3.1
Vanguard TtBMIdxAdmrl	9.81	...	-2.4
Vanguard TtBMIdxIns	9.81	...	-2.4
Vanguard TtInSIdxAdmrl	29.71	+.07	-3.9
Vanguard TtInSIdxIns	118.81	+.26	-3.8
Vanguard TtInSIdxInv	17.76	+.04	-3.9
Vanguard TtlSMIdxAdmrl	98.93	+.35	-8.0
Vanguard TtlSMIdxIns	98.94	+.34	-8.0
Vanguard WlngtnAdmrl	68.72	+.22	-3.8
Vanguard WlslyIncAdmrl	60.10	+.02	-2.7
Vanguard WndsrIIAdmrl	69.30	+.24	-4.4

d - Deferred sales charge, or redemption fee.
m - Multiple fees are charged, usually a marketing fee and either a sales or redemption fee.
Source: Morningstar.

NATION & WORLD

White House reviews Afghan exit

Summary of report says Biden's options limited by Trump

By Zeke Miller and Nomaan Merchant
Associated Press

Afghans seeking entry to Hamid Karzai International Airport and an opportunity to leave the country wave identification documents at U.S. Marines standing guard on blast walls in Kabul on Aug. 22, 2021. **JIM HUYLEBROEK/THE NEW YORK TIMES**

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden's administration on Thursday laid the blame on his predecessor, former President Donald Trump, for the deadly and chaotic 2021 withdrawal of U.S. troops from Afghanistan that brought about some of the darkest moments of the current presidency.

The White House publicly released a 12-page summary of the results of the so-called hotwash of U.S. policies around the ending of the nation's longest war, taking little responsibility for its own actions and asserting that Biden was "severely constrained" by Trump's decisions.

It does acknowledge that the evacuation of Americans and allies from Afghanistan should have started sooner, but blames the delays on the Afghan government and military, and on U.S. military and intelligence community assessments.

The brief document was drafted by the National Security Council, rather than by an independent entity, with input from Biden himself. The administration said detailed reviews conducted by the State Department and the Pentagon, which the White House said would be transmitted privately to Congress on Thursday, were highly classified and would not be released publicly.

"President Biden's choices for how to execute a withdrawal from Afghanistan were severely constrained by conditions created by his predecessor," the White House summary states, noting that when Biden entered office, "the Taliban were in the strongest military position that they had been in since 2001, controlling or contesting nearly half of the country."

Trump responded by accusing the Biden administration of playing "a new disinformation game" to distract from "their grossly incompetent SURRENDER in Afghanistan." On his social media site, he said, "Biden is responsible, no one else!"

The report does fault overly optimistic intelligence community assessments about the Afghan army's willingness to fight, and says Biden followed military commanders' recommendations for the pacing of the drawdown of U.S. forces.

"Clearly we didn't get it right," National Security Council spokesman John Kirby said Thursday, but sidestepped questions about whether Biden has any regrets for his decisions and actions leading up to the withdrawal.

Kirby said of the report that "the purpose of it is not accountability," but rather "understanding" what happened to inform future decisions.

The White House asserts the mistakes of Afghanistan informed its handling of Ukraine, where the Biden administration has been credited for supporting Kyiv's defense against Russia's invasion. The White House says it simulated worst-case scenarios prior to the February 2022 invasion and moved to release intelligence about Moscow's intentions months beforehand.

"We now prioritize earlier evacuations when faced with a degrading security situation," the White House said.

In an apparent attempt to defend its national security decision-making, the Biden administration also notes that it released pre-war warnings over "strong objections from senior officials in the Ukrainian government."

Republicans in Congress have sharply criticized the Afghanistan withdrawal, focusing on the deaths of 13 service members in a suicide bombing at Kabul's airport, which also killed more than 100 Afghans.

Sen. Tom Cotton, R-Ark., tweeted Thursday that the withdrawal was "an unmitigated fiasco," adding, "Passing the buck in a blame-shifting report won't change that."

The administration's report appears to shift any blame in the Aug. 26, 2021, suicide bombing at Hamid Karzai International Airport, saying it was the U.S. military that made one possibly key decision.

"To manage the potential threat of a terrorist attack, the President repeatedly asked whether the military required additional support to carry out their mission at HKIA," the report said, adding, "Senior military officials confirmed that they had sufficient resources and authorities to mitigate threats."

Kirby credited U.S. forces for their actions in running the largest airborne evacuation of noncombatants in history during the chaos of Kabul's fall.

"They ended our nation's longest war," he told reporters. "That was never going to be an easy thing to do. And as the president himself has said, it was never going to be low grade or low risk or low cost."

Since the U.S. withdrawal, Biden has blamed the February 2020 agreement Trump reached with the Taliban in Doha, Qatar, saying it boxed the U.S. into leaving the country. The agreement has been blamed by analysts for undercutting the U.S.-backed government, which collapsed the following year.

The Afghan government released roughly 5,000 Taliban prisoners after the Doha agreement as a condition of having peace talks with the Taliban. Kirby noted that release and other examples of what he said was a "general sense of degradation and neglect" inherited by Biden.

But the agreement also gave the U.S. the right to withdraw from the accord if Afghan peace talks failed — which they did.

The agreement required the U.S. to remove all forces by May 1, 2021. Biden pushed a full withdrawal to September but declined to delay further, saying it would prolong a war that had long needed to end.

Ex-prosecutor in Trump case subpoenaed by GOP

House Republicans escalate probe into indictment in NYC

By Farnoush Amiri
Associated Press

Rep. Jim Jordan, R-Ohio

WASHINGTON — House Republicans on Thursday subpoenaed one of the former Manhattan prosecutors who had been leading a criminal investigation into former President Donald Trump before quitting last year in a clash over the direction of the probe.

Rep. Jim Jordan, chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, ordered Mark Pomerantz to testify before the committee by April 30. The subpoena is the latest escalation by Republicans as they probe Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg, days after Trump was charged in a 34-count felony indictment in connection with a hush money scheme involving a porn actor.

Pomerantz refused to voluntarily cooperate with the committee's request last month at the instruction of Bragg's office, citing the ongoing investigation. The Manhattan D.A.'s office has accused Jordan's committee of overstepping its legal authority and infringing on New York state sovereignty.

Jordan has now written in a letter to Pomerantz, "Based on your unique role as a special assistant district attorney leading the investigation into President Trump's finances, you are uniquely situated to provide information that is relevant and necessary to inform the Committee's oversight and potential legislative reforms."

A request for comment from Pomerantz was not immediately returned.

Bragg called the subpoena another example of a Republican "attempt to undermine an active investigation and ongoing New York criminal case."

"Repeated efforts to weaken state and local law enforcement actions are an abuse of power and will not deter us from our duty to uphold the law," Bragg wrote in a tweet.

Republicans had rallied around Trump in the leadup to his indictment Tuesday, labeling Bragg's investigation a "political persecution." Jordan and other senior GOP lawmakers see Pomerantz and Carey Dunne, who were top deputies tasked with running the investigation on a day-to-day basis, as catalysts for Bragg's decision to move ahead with the hush money case.

Both men started on the probe under former District Attorney Cyrus Vance Jr., and Bragg asked them to stay when he took office in January. Both Vance and Bragg are Democrats.

The Trump indictment centers on allegations that he falsified internal business records at his private company while trying to cover up an effort to illegally influence the 2016 election by arranging payments that silenced claims potentially harmful to his candidacy. It includes 34 counts of falsifying records related to checks Trump sent to his personal lawyer and problem-solver, Michael Cohen, to reimburse him for his role in paying off Stormy Daniels, a porn actor who said she had an extramarital sexual encounter with Trump years earlier.

Mark Pomerantz was among Manhattan prosecutors leading an investigation into Donald Trump before quitting last year in a clash over the direction of the probe. **DAVID KARP/AP 2002**

Pomerantz released a book earlier this year titled "People vs. Donald Trump: An Inside Account." In the book, he said that Vance authorized him in December 2021 to seek Trump's indictment. He has portrayed the hush money payments — made or arranged by Cohen — as perhaps the most challenging and legally fraught of the potential cases against the former president.

Jordan wrote Thursday that Pomerantz should be allowed to cooperate since he has "already discussed many of the topics relevant to our oversight" in the book he published. He goes on to say that Pomerantz's book details how the case looking into Trump "appears to have been politically motivated."

"Specifically, you describe your eagerness to investigate President Trump, writing that you were 'delighted' to join an unpaid group of lawyers advising on the Trump investigations, and joking that salary negotiations had gone 'great' because you would have paid to join the investigation," the Jordan letter continued.

Meanwhile, the Manhattan judge presiding over Trump's case has received dozens of death threats and other harassing calls and emails, a source with direct knowledge told the New York Daily News.

Phone numbers and email addresses associated with State Supreme Court Judge Juan Merchan, who has been attacked by Trump on social media and in public remarks, have been flooded with harassing and defamatory mail and calls in the weeks since Trump learned of his pending indictment, the source said.

Trump's lawyer Joe Tacopina on Thursday said the threats to Merchan were "appalling and we condemn anyone participating in such behavior."

Bragg has also been subjected to a deluge of racist hate mail and death threats before and after Trump's indictment, according to a senior adviser to the district attorney.

Thomas reportedly took undisclosed luxury trips from GOP megadonor

Associated Press

Justice Clarence Thomas

WASHINGTON — Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas has for more than two decades accepted luxury trips nearly every year from Republican megadonor Harlan Crow without reporting them on financial disclosure forms, ProPublica reports.

In a story published Thursday, the nonprofit investigative journalism organization catalogs various trips Thomas has taken aboard Crow's yacht and private jet as well as to Crow's private resort in the Adirondacks. A 2019 trip to Indonesia the story detailed could have cost more than $500,000 had Thomas chartered the plane and yacht himself, ProPublica reported.

Supreme Court justices, like other federal judges, are required to file an annual financial disclosure report, which asks them to list gifts they have received. It was not clear why Thomas omitted the trips, but under a judiciary policy guide, food, lodging or entertainment received as "personal hospitality of any individual" does not need to be reported if it is at the personal residence of that individual or their family. That said, the exception to reporting is not supposed to cover "transportation that substitutes for commercial transportation" and properties owned by an entity.

ProPublica wrote that Thomas did not respond to questions from the organization.

Last month, the federal judiciary beefed up disclosure requirements for all judges, although overnight stays at personal vacation homes owned by friends remain exempt.

Last year, questions about Thomas' ethics arose when it was disclosed that he did not step away from 2020 election cases despite his wife, conservative activist Virginia Thomas, reaching out to lawmakers and the White House to urge defiance of election results.

Crow told ProPublica that he and his wife have been friends of Thomas and his wife since 1996, five years after Thomas joined the high court. Crow said that the "hospitality we have extended to the Thomas's over the years is no different from the hospitality we have extended to our many other dear friends" and that the couple "never asked for any of this hospitality."

Thomas, who grew up poor in Georgia, has talked about enjoying traveling in his motorcoach and preferring "Walmart parking lots to the beaches."

Sectarian trust a work in progress

Dramatic shifts in Northern Ireland 25 years after pact

By Peter Smith
Associated Press

Catholic and Protestant teens from St. Peter's Immaculata Youth Centre and the Townsend Street Social Outreach Centre light candles for Holocaust Remembrance Day on Jan. 27 in Belfast City Cemetery. **PETER MORRISON/AP**

BELFAST, Northern Ireland — Teenagers from Catholic and Protestant youth groups lit candles on a Belfast street in memory of those who perished in the Holocaust, then listened solemnly to a warning about the dangers of Northern Ireland's own infamous religious bigotries.

"We all know what prejudice is," said Stephen Hughes, the leader of St. Peter's Immaculata Youth Centre, his voice robustly carrying over the twilight rush-hour traffic. "We were encouraged to hate each other because they're Protestant or they're Catholic."

The teens were too young, he noted, to remember "the Troubles" — three decades of sectarian violence that claimed more than 3,600 lives in the late 20th century and left countless more wounded and bereaved.

The violence largely ended 25 years ago this month with the signing of the Good Friday Agreement, which laid out a political process for resolving Northern Ireland's future.

But that political process has been turbulent, skirmishes have periodically resurfaced, and Catholic and Protestants remain segregated in many ways.

Moreover, Catholics now outnumber Protestants in a land historically defined by its pro-British Protestant majority. But neither of them are in church as often as they used to be, those who profess no religion are growing, and Catholics have mixed views about uniting with Ireland, meaning it's not expected to come to a vote any time soon

There's still plenty of work for those in the business of reconciliation and community-building.

The Holocaust memorial event in January was one of several small yet earnest activities by two youth groups — the Catholic St. Peter's Immaculata and the Townsend Street Social Outreach Centre, located in an adjacent Protestant neighborhood. Their aim is to build communication and friendship across the walls and habits dividing their communities.

The event was commemorating a genocide far greater than the Northern Ireland conflict, but the memorial offered a powerful and relevant warning, Hughes said.

"Our own hatred, the laughs and jokes we make about each other, can quickly escalate," he said.

He urged the teens to be peace builders. "Thankfully, you don't know that violence," he said. "The thing is, you're are the future."

And then the youths climbed back into their minibus for a stop at McDonald's, where they mingled over Big Macs and fries before heading home to separate neighborhoods.

Religion, long a part of the problem, can be part of the solution, said Ruth Petticrew, longtime director of the Townsend Street organization. "Let's show people that love works, but it has to be genuine love, not preaching at them."

The 25th anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement is arriving as Northern Ireland's population undergoes dramatic change.

Northern Ireland was created a century ago as a six-county entity with a two-to-one Protestant majority — fiercely loyal to the United Kingdom even as the rest of predominately Catholic Ireland won independence from it.

Long a minority, Catholics now comprise 42% and Protestants 37% of Northern Ireland's population of 1.9 million, according to the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency.

But in another demographic jolt, the number of people who don't identify with any religion jumped to 17%, up from 10% a decade earlier.

Faith leaders in Northern Ireland say church attendance has shrunk even among those who still identify as Christian.

The Good Friday Agreement authorizes a referendum on Irish unification if polls ever indicate it would likely pass.

But nearly twice as many people in Northern Ireland — 50% vs. 27% — would vote to stay in Britain rather than to join Ireland if a referendum were held now, according to a 2022 survey published in the Irish Times.

What's more, only 55% of Catholics in Northern Ireland would vote to join Ireland. Most others would either stay in the U.K. or were uncertain.

Secular and other voters are even more mixed — with nearly a third uncertain.

"There's more and more and more people like myself who also don't actually identify with the idea or don't take a position on being part of the U.K. or part of the Republic of Ireland," said Boyd Sleator, coordinator of the group Northern Ireland Humanists. "We should just think about governing ourselves."

Even if religion is in retreat, faith-based groups are still working toward reconciliation on a grassroots level.

Few efforts are more striking than what's taking place at the Building Bridges Community Boxing Club.

It operates in what was once the fellowship hall of a Presbyterian church that has since closed. The building was acquired by 174 Trust, a faith-based community group, and turned into a boxing gym.

It's located astride one of the "peace walls" that divide neighborhoods in an effort to keep sectarian violence at bay. The gym's front door opens onto a predominately Protestant neighborhood, its back door onto a mostly Catholic neighborhood.

That enables the gym to stay open in the evening, accessible to youths from both neighborhoods — even after the gates to the peace wall are closed each night.

Unlike some sports, which are divided along sectarian lines, boxing brings out fans from all communities, said the Rev. Bill Shaw, CEO of the 174 Trust, which works closely with the boxing club. When one young boxer, a Protestant, began to have success in the ring, his newfound Catholic friends from the gym turned out to cheer him on.

"When people don't know each other and have no contact with the other, you can live with that prejudice and allow it to poison yourself," Shaw said.

But it's a different story, he said, "when they actually meet each other."

Much of Shaw's work is at The Duncairn, a community center in another former Presbyterian church located a few blocks from the boxing gym in a historically embattled neighborhood. Within its stained-glass windows and Gothic arches, The Duncairn today hosts concerts, exhibitions, an Irish-language preschool, a cafe and support groups.

On a winter morning, Catholic and Protestant clergy gathered for prayer at the Duncairn.

One by one, they earnestly prayed for an end to prejudice and hatred.

The goal for such centers, Shaw said, is reconciliation rather than proselytizing.

"Faith is what motivates us," said Shaw. "It's not what we're selling."

A protester sits on a sofa amid tear gas during a clash on the sidelines of a demonstration over pension reform Thursday in Nantes, western France. **LOIC VENANCE/GETTY-AFP**

Protests over pension reform again hit the streets of France

By John Leicester, Thomas Adamson and Oleg Cetinic
Associated Press

PARIS — Police fired clouds of tear gas against unruly protesters in Paris and other French cities Thursday as hundreds of thousands of people returned to streets across the country to vent anger against President Emmanuel Macron's contested pension reforms.

Macron's drive to raise the national retirement age from 62 to 64 has ignited a monthslong firestorm of opposition.

Talks between trade union leaders and Prime Minister Elisabeth Borne collapsed Wednesday without a breakthrough, setting the stage for the fresh demonstrations that were largely peaceful but also punctured by violence.

Trade unions vowed to keep up their resistance and called for another round of protests in a week. But labor strikes that have caused significant disruptions since January lost some of their bite, with fewer workers taking part.

The Paris Metro ran almost normally Thursday, in contrast with previous days of action. Less than 8% of teachers were on strike, according to the Education Ministry.

However, strikers again closed the Eiffel Tower, and the unions still managed to mobilize large crowds for protests across the country. The Interior Ministry said 570,000 people took part; unions said the figure was closer to 2 million.

There were chaotic scenes at the Paris demonstration that wound through the capital's streets, leaving a trail of destruction. Police were pelted by projectiles when the march reached La Rotonde, a restaurant patronized by Macron during the 2017 presidential election that he went on to win.

A small fire scorched parts of the chic venue's outside awning and some of its windows were smashed. Demonstrators employing so-called black bloc tactics also targeted banks, ripping down a protective wooden screen erected around one branch and smashing the windows with hammers and rocks before police dispersed them.

Police fired repeated volleys of tear gas and chased protesters who set fires.

The CGT union estimated that 400,000 people joined the Paris protest, down from 450,000 the week before. The police estimate was far lower: 57,000. Officers detained at least 31 people in the capital. The Paris police force also reported dozens of injuries in its ranks, including 13 officers who were treated in hospitals.

Experts say protest violence, with scores of demonstrators and police hurt in 11 rounds of demonstrations since January, has turned off less activist parts of the population.

Elsewhere in France, largely peaceful crowds marched behind union flags and banners in Marseille on the Mediterranean coast, Bordeaux in the southwest, Lyon in the southeast and other cities.

In the western city of Nantes, clouds of police tear gas were deployed. Tear gas was also reported in Rennes, in Brittany, and was used to disperse a crowd outside a coffee store in Lyon that was being looted.

Tenn. GOP-led House expels 2 of 3 Dems over gun protest

By Kimberlee Kruesi and Jonathan Mattise
Associated Press

State Rep. Justin Pearson, D-Memphis, receives a hug from a supporter as he visits the gallery of the House chamber Thursday in Nashville, Tenn. **GEORGE WALKER IV/AP**

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — In an extraordinary act of political retaliation, Tennessee Republicans on Thursday expelled two Democratic lawmakers from the state Legislature for their role in a protest that called for more gun control in the aftermath of a deadly school shooting in Nashville.

The banishment of Reps. Justin Jones and Justin Pearson, who are both Black, was a move the chamber has used only a handful times since the Civil War. Most state legislatures possess the power to expel members, but it is generally reserved as a punishment for lawmakers accused of serious misconduct, not used as a weapon against political opponents.

The GOP supermajority in the House declined by a single vote to expel a third Democrat, Rep. Gloria Johnson, who is white.

Johnson joined with Jones and Pearson last week as hundreds of protesters packed the Capitol to call for passage of gun-control measures. While demonstrators filled galleries, the three Democrats approached the front of the House chamber with a bullhorn and participated in a chant.

The protest unfolded days after the shooting at the Covenant School, a private Christian school where six people were killed, including three children.

"We are losing our democracy. This is not normal. This is not OK," Pearson told reporters before the vote. The three "broke a House rule because we're fighting for kids who are dying from gun violence and people in our communities who want to see an end to the proliferation of weaponry in our communities."

Johnson, a retired teacher, said her concern about school shootings was personal, recalling a day in 2008 when students came running toward her out of a cafeteria because a student had just been shot and killed there.

"The trauma on those faces, you will never, ever forget. I don't want to forget it," she said.

Thousands of people flocked to the Capitol on Thursday to support the Democrats, cheering and chanting outside the House chamber so loudly that the noise drowned out the proceedings.

The trio held hands as they walked onto the House floor, and Pearson raised his fist to the crowd during the Pledge of Allegiance.

Offered a chance to defend himself before the vote, Jones said the GOP responded to the shooting with a different kind of attack.

"We called for you all to ban assault weapons, and you respond with an assault on democracy," he said.

Even after being expelled, the lawmakers may not be gone for long. County commissions in their districts get to pick replacements to serve until a special election can be scheduled. Any expelled lawmakers would be eligible for appointment back to their seats. They would also be eligible to run in the special election. And under the Tennessee Constitution, lawmakers cannot be expelled for the same offense twice.

Outrage over the possible expulsion underscored not only the ability of the GOP supermajority to silence opponents, but its willingness to do so.

In Washington, President Joe Biden blasted the GOP's priorities.

"Three kids and three officials gunned down in yet another mass shooting. And what are GOP officials focused on? Punishing lawmakers who joined thousands of peaceful protesters calling for action. It's shocking, undemocratic, and without precedent," Biden tweeted.

Many of the protesters traveled from Memphis and Knoxville, areas that Pearson and Johnson represent, and stood in a line that wrapped around the Capitol to get inside.

Protesters held up signs that said, "School zones shouldn't be war zones," "Muskets didn't fire 950 rounds per minute" with an image of George Washington, and "You can silence a gun ... but not the voice of the people."

Israeli forces strike targets in Gaza

Regional tensions high after rocket fire on two fronts

By Isabel Debre and Sam McNeil
Associated Press

Smoke rises Thursday from a fire in Bezet, northern Israel, after a heavy barrage of rockets fired from Lebanon. The Israeli military blamed the attack on militants and said it forced people across Israel's northern frontier into bomb shelters. **FADI AMUN/AP**

JERUSALEM — The Israeli military struck targets in the Gaza Strip early Friday, pushing the region toward a wider conflagration after a day of rocket fire along the country's northern and southern borders following two days of unrest at Jerusalem's most sensitive holy site. Gaza militants quickly fired off a new barrage of rockets, setting off air raid sirens across southern Israel.

The Israeli airstrikes set off at least four loud explosions in Gaza. The Israeli military said it struck a pair of tunnels and two weapons-manufacturing sites.

The sound of outgoing rocket fire could be heard in Gaza.

Such were the latest signs of rising tensions during a sensitive holiday period. Similar fighting in 2021 led to an 11-day war between Israel and Hamas.

The airstrikes came after militants in Lebanon fired a heavy barrage of rockets at Israel earlier in the day, forcing people across Israel's northern frontier into bomb shelters, wounding at least two people. In Gaza, militants also fired rockets toward Israel.

Israeli military officials said the rocket fire on both fronts was carried out by Palestinian militants in connection to this week's violence at the Al-Aqsa Mosque in the heart of Jerusalem's Old City, where Israeli police stormed into the building with tear gas and stun grenades on two straight days. The violent scenes from the mosque have ratcheted up tensions across the region.

The airstrikes came as Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was meeting with his Security Cabinet to discuss the rocket fire. After the nearly three-hour meeting, Netanyahu's office put out a short statement saying a series of decisions had been made.

"Israel's response, tonight and beyond, will extract a heavy price from our enemies," Netanyahu said. It did not elaborate.

There was no immediate Israeli action in Lebanon, where militants fired some 34 rockets across the border. The military said 25 were shot down by its Iron Dome aerial defense system. Five rockets struck Israeli territory and the rest of the strikes were being investigated. Israel said two people were wounded.

The unusually large salvo of rockets raised fears of a wider conflagration, as Israel's bitter enemy, the Iran-backed militant group Hezbollah, holds sway over much of southern Lebanon.

Over the past two days, tensions have skyrocketed at the sacred compound home to the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem and along Israel's tense border with the Gaza Strip.

In a briefing with reporters, Lt. Col. Richard Hecht, an Israeli military spokesman, said the army drew a clear connection between the Lebanese rocket fire and the recent unrest in Jerusalem.

"It's a Palestinian-oriented event," he said, adding that either the Hamas or Islamic Jihad militant groups, which are based in Gaza but also operate in Lebanon, could be involved. But he said the army believed that Hezbollah and the Lebanese government were aware of what happened and also held responsibility. He declined to say how Israel might respond, saying there were "all sorts of scenarios."

Earlier Thursday and late Wednesday night, Palestinian militants in the Gaza Strip fired several rockets toward Israel in protest over the Israeli police storming into the Al-Aqsa Mosque. On Thursday, Hezbollah condemned Israel's storming of Al-Aqsa. The shrine — the third-holiest site in Islam — stands on a hilltop revered by Jews as the Temple Mount, the holiest site in Judaism.

No faction in Lebanon claimed responsibility for the salvo of rockets, which set off air raid sirens across the country's north.

A Lebanese security official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the media, said the country's security forces believed the rockets were launched by a Lebanon-based Palestinian militant group, not by Hezbollah. The official said there were no casualties on the Lebanese side.

A spokesperson for Hezbollah did not respond to a request for comment. Both Israel and Hezbollah have avoided an all-out conflict since a 34-day war in 2006 ended in a draw.

Tensions have simmered along the Lebanese border as Israel appears to have ratcheted up its shadow war against Iranian-linked targets in Syria, another close ally of Iran, Israel's archenemy in the region. Suspected Israeli airstrikes in Syria in recent weeks have killed two Iranian military advisers and temporarily put the country's two largest airports out of service.

In Jerusalem, tensions ran high after two nights of unrest, a volatile time during which the Muslim holy month of Ramadan and the Jewish holiday of Passover overlap.

Palestinians have barricaded themselves in the mosque with stones and firecrackers, demanding the right to pray overnight inside the mosque — which authorities typically only permit during the last 10 days of the monthlong holiday. They also have stayed in the mosque in protest over threats by religious Jews to carry out a barred ritual animal slaughter at the sacred site for Passover.

The violence at the site has resonated across the region, with condemnations pouring in from Muslim leaders.

NEWS BRIEFING

China vows 'forceful' measures in response to US-Taiwan meeting

From news services

TAIPEI, Taiwan — China vowed reprisals against Taiwan after a meeting between the United States House speaker and the island's president, saying Thursday that the U.S. was on a "wrong and dangerous road."

Speaker Kevin McCarthy hosted Taiwanese President Tsai Ing-wen on Wednesday in a show of U.S. support for the self-governed island, which China claims as its own, along with a bipartisan delegation of more than a dozen U.S. lawmakers.

The Biden administration maintains there is nothing provocative about the visit by Tsai, which is the latest of a half-dozen to the U.S. Yet it comes as the U.S.-China relationship has fallen to historic lows, with U.S. support for Taiwan one of the main points of difference between the two powers.

But the formal trappings of the meeting, and the senior rank of some of the elected officials in the delegation from Congress, could lead China to view it as an escalation. No speaker is known to have met with a Taiwanese president on U.S. soil since the U.S. broke off formal diplomatic relations with Taiwan in 1979.

In response to the meeting, Beijing said in a statement issued early morning by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that it would take "resolute and forceful measures to defend national sovereignty and territorial integrity."

It urged the U.S. "not to walk further down a wrong and dangerous road."

In December, China's military sent 71 planes and seven ships toward Taiwan in a 24-hour display of force after expressing anger at Taiwan-related provisions in a U.S. annual defense spending bill. China's military pressure campaign on Taiwan has intensified in recent years, and the Communist Party has sent planes or ships toward the island on a near-daily basis.

But as of Thursday night, there was no overt sign of a large-scale military response.

"We will take resolute measures to punish the 'Taiwan independence' separatist forces and their actions, and resolutely safeguard our country's sovereignty and territorial integrity," China's Taiwan Affairs Office said in a statement Thursday, referring to Tsai and her political party as separatists.

Saudi-Iran ties: Longtime Mideast rivals Iran and Saudi Arabia took another significant step toward reconciliation Thursday, formally restoring diplomatic ties after a seven-year rift, affirming the need for regional stability and agreeing to pursue economic cooperation.

The agreement was reached in Beijing during a meeting between the Iranian and Saudi foreign ministers, a month after China had brokered an initial reconciliation agreement between the two regional powerhouses.

The latest understanding further lowers the chance of armed conflict between the rivals, both directly and in proxy conflicts around the region. It could bolster efforts by diplomats to end a long war in Yemen, a conflict in which both Iran and Saudi Arabia are deeply entrenched.

Thursday's announcement also represents another diplomatic victory for the Chinese as Gulf Arab states perceive the United States slowly withdrawing from the wider region.

Pope Francis washes the feet of an inmate Thursday in Rome's penitentiary of Casal del Marmo. In a Holy Thursday ritual symbolizing humility, Pope Francis washed and dried the feet of a dozen residents of the juvenile prison, assuring them of their dignity. The ritual recalls the foot-washing Jesus performed on his 12 apostles at the Last Supper. **VATICAN MEDIA**

Italy's Berlusconi: Former Italian Premier Silvio Berlusconi is being treated for a lung infection that is a result of chronic leukemia, his doctors said Thursday, revealing the latest of string of health setbacks for the 86-year-old media mogul.

The statement was the first official word from doctors since Berlusconi was admitted to Milan's San Raffaele Hospital on Wednesday. Dr. Fabio Ciceri, who is head of hematology, bone marrow transplation and blood cancer at the hospital, co-signed it.

Berlusconi served three terms as Italy's premier and now serves in the Senate.

UK slavery probe: King Charles III for the first time has signaled support for research into the British monarchy's ties to slavery after a document showed an ancestor with shares in a slave-trading company, a Buckingham Palace spokesperson said Thursday.

Charles takes the issue "profoundly seriously" and academics will be given access to the royal collection and archives, the palace said.

The statement was in response to an article in The Guardian newspaper that revealed a document showing that the deputy governor of the slave-trading Royal African Company transferred 1,000 pounds of shares in the business to King William III in 1689.

The newspaper reported on the document as part of a series of stories on royal wealth and finances, as well as the monarchy's connection to slavery.

Charles and his eldest son, Prince William, have expressed their sorrow over slavery but haven't acknowledged the crown's connections to the trade.

Mich. bribery: The former head of a Michigan medical marijuana licensing board has agreed to plead guilty to accepting $110,000 in bribes when he led the panel over a two-year period, authorities said Thursday.

Rick Johnson acknowledged in a signed court filing that he acted "corruptly" when he accepted cash and other benefits to help businesses get licenses.

Charges against Johnson and three other men were announced by U.S. Attorney Mark Totten at a press conference near the Capitol in Lansing.

Johnson, 70, was chairman of the marijuana board for two years until spring 2019. The Republican years earlier also was a powerful lawmaker, serving as House speaker from 2001 through 2004.

Johnson accepted $110,200 in cash and benefits from at least two companies while voting in favor of granting them marijuana licenses, according to the bribery charge.

NKorea threatens action: North Korea on Thursday threatened unspecified "offensive action" over the expansion of U.S. military exercises with rival South Korea as President Joe Biden's special representative for North Korea flew to Seoul for talks with allies over the North's growing nuclear threat.

The North Korean comments came a day after the United States flew nuclear-capable B-52 bombers to the Korean Peninsula for joint aerial exercises with South Korean warplanes in their latest show of force against the North.

The North's official Korean Central News Agency said in a commentary attributed to a scholar that the United States and South Korea's military exercises and the deployment of advanced U.S. military assets have turned the Korean Peninsula into a "huge powder magazine, which can be detonated any moment."

The commentary came as Sung Kim, the U.S. special representative to North Korea, arrived in Seoul for talks with South Korean and Japanese officials to coordinate their response to North Korea's intensifying weapons development and threats of nuclear conflict.

Vanished Tulare Lake reclaims its territory

California braces as snowmelt threatens bountiful farmland

By Soumya Karlamangla and Shawn Hubler
The New York Times

A pickup pulls a trailer along a flooded road last month in the Central Valley during flooding from winter storms in Tulare County, near Alpaugh, California. Roads and farms are being flooded where Tulare Lake once existed. **PATRICK T. FALLON/GETTY-AFP**

CORCORAN, Calif. — It is no secret to locals that the heart of California's Central Valley was once the largest body of fresh water west of the Mississippi River, dammed and drained into an empire of farms by the mid-20th century.

Still, even longtime residents have been staggered this year by the brute swiftness with which Tulare Lake has resurfaced: In less than three weeks, a parched expanse of 30 square miles has been transformed by furious storms into a vast and rising sea.

The lake's rebirth has become a slow-motion disaster for farmers and residents in Kings County, home to 152,000 residents and a $2 billion agricultural industry that sends cotton, tomatoes, safflower, pistachios, milk and more around the planet. The wider and deeper Tulare Lake gets, the greater the risk that entire harvests will be lost, homes will be submerged and businesses will go under.

Across the region, the surprise barrage of atmospheric rivers that swept through California over the past three months already has saturated the ground, overflowed canals and burst through levees. The fear now is that record walls of snow in the southern Sierra Nevada will liquefy in the intensifying spring heat into a downhill torrent that will inundate the Central Valley.

And the resurrected Tulare Lake (pronounced too-LAIR-ee), already more vast than all but one of California's reservoirs, could remain for two years or longer, causing billions of dollars in economic damage and displacing thousands of farmworkers while transforming the area into the giant natural habitat it had been before it was conquered by farmers. "The Big Melt," unsettled meteorologists have begun to call it.

"This could be the mother of all floods," said Phil Hansen, 56, a fifth-generation farmer who has already lost more than one-third of his 18,000 acres to a breached levee. "This could be the biggest flood we've ever seen."

Already several communities have been evacuated, and hundreds of homes and farm buildings have been destroyed or damaged. Sandbags are being helicoptered in. Dairy cattle have been hustled to higher ground by the tens of thousands. Authorities said last month that a local poultry facility surrounded by water was weighing whether to move or slaughter 1 million chickens. And farmers are sparring over whose land should get flooded first, knowing that inundation probably will be a question of when, not if.

In the lake's revival, scientists, historians and growers see an epic rematch gathering between nature and humans. For now, nature seems determined to win in an era of climate change with extended dry periods followed by storms that deliver more water than anyone knows what to do with. The runoff has no natural place to drain, and experts say there is no easy way to send this water to other areas of the state that could use it for irrigation or residential purposes, even as the state remains desperate for long-term drought solutions.

Around the farm and prison town of Corcoran, gray-blue waves now whoosh surrealistically to the horizon. Snowy-white cranes soar over dirt levees that, so far, are shielding about 22,000 residents and inmates. Submerged fields lie bereft of the tomatoes and Pima cotton that would ordinarily fill them, an agricultural Atlantis larger than New York City's Manhattan.

The lake bed is essentially a 790-square-mile bathtub — the size of four Lake Tahoes — that dates back to the ice age. Mammoths once sipped at Tulare Lake's shores, and tule elk ranged in its marshlands.

Now the landscape is among the most heavily engineered in the nation. Great dams, run by the federal government and underwritten over the years by large growers, manage the water released into it from the Kings, Tule, Kaweah and Kern rivers. Downstream, farmers and cities have erected hundreds of miles of levees and canals.

High in the southern Sierra Nevada, a record snowpack — triple the historical average — will strain the water managers who are already running that plumbing system like never before as the days lengthen and the spring skies heat.

In 1983, when a long-lasting snowmelt submerged about 130 square miles of the lake bed, the damage just in Kings County cost nearly $300 million in today's dollars, and the water took two years to clear, according to John T. Austin, author of "Floods and Droughts in the Tulare Lake Basin," a book about the region. That summer, two men kayaked through the floodwaters from the banks of the Kern River just outside downtown Bakersfield to the San Francisco Bay, a meandering 450-mile journey across what would typically be sun-baked land.

Since then, the population has roughly doubled, both in Kings County and in the surrounding San Joaquin Valley that includes Fresno and Merced, a region that is now home to about 3 million people.

Mark Grewal, an agricultural consultant and former executive at the dominant J.G. Boswell Company, one of the largest privately owned farms in the nation, said that the long-term, regionwide economic impact could be exponentially higher than in 1983 because the commodities that are now grown — high-end crops such as nuts, tomatoes and Pima cotton — are much costlier and are spiking in value with inflation. The region is so crucial to the world's supply that sustained substantial flooding could lead to higher prices for consumers.

Emergency officials have sought to drive home the enormous catastrophe that could develop as the thaw comes.

Kings County Sheriff David Robinson recalled that he was 12 years old when the 1983 flood hit, and he never imagined he would see such a spectacle twice in his lifetime. In an interview, his assistant sheriff, Robert Thayer, said aerial footage was not reassuring. Both men described the potential for flooding as "biblical."

"This will impact the world, if people can just grasp that," Robinson said at a news conference after asking the public to stop using the lake for boating. "We're going to have a million acre-foot of water covering up an area that feeds the world."

Steering his white pickup truck last week across a tilled landscape that might soon be under water, Grewal, 66, said there was no way these flatlands would avoid inundation. He said the melting snow would do far worse than the flooding that had already occurred.

"A heavy snowmelt in May is going to be a disaster," Grewal said. "This lake could cover hundreds of square miles here by the time everything comes down."

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TRUMP INDICTMENT

Agnew's arraignment a quiet affair

Unlike in Trump case, Secret Service kept this one secret

By Del Quentin Wilber
Associated Press

Former Vice President Spiro T. Agnew talks to reporters after resigning and then pleading no contest to a federal tax evasion charge in Baltimore. **AP 1973**

WASHINGTON — The last time Secret Service agents escorted a U.S. leader to face criminal charges, they kept their mission a secret — even from their own bosses.

It was Oct. 10, 1973, and just a few agents knew the history they would make in ensuring that Vice President Spiro Agnew appeared in a federal courtroom to enter a plea and resign from office.

"It was a big day for the country, and a sad day," said Jerry Parr, one of those agents, in a 2010 interview. "And we didn't tell anyone it was happening. For better and worse."

There was no secret the second time around: The Secret Service on Tuesday delivered former President Donald Trump to a New York City courtroom to be arraigned on state charges tied to hush money payments in a daylong spectacle.

While much has been made of Trump becoming the first former president to appear in court to answer an indictment, the Secret Service has been in a similar spot before. And there are lessons to be gleaned from how Parr and other agents helped Agnew navigate his final hours as the nation's 39th vice president.

The main one: The agents allowed their admiration of Agnew, who died in 1996, to get in the way of properly doing their jobs.

Parr, who joined the Secret Service in 1962, wasn't sure what to expect when he was tapped a decade later to be the deputy chief of Agnew's detail. The vice president had a reputation for being President Richard Nixon's attack dog and skewering political opponents as "nattering nabobs of negativism," "vicars of vacillation" and "pusillanimous pussyfooters."

Behind closed doors, however, Parr discovered that Agnew was nothing like his antagonistic persona.

"He was actually a very nice man," said Parr in a series of interviews for a book on the agent's life-saving role in the Ronald Reagan assassination attempt. "All the agents really liked him."

An example of Agnew's kindness occurred in 1972 when Parr and his wife threw a Christmas party for agents. Agnew insisted on coming so agents working on that shift could attend. Not many top government officials were that thoughtful, according to Parr, who died in 2015 at 85.

Signs of Agnew's serious legal trouble emerged in August 1973 when the U.S. attorney for Maryland informed Agnew that prosecutors were investigating the vice president for allegedly taking bribes as Maryland's governor. It did not take long for news of the investigation to dominate front pages.

Within a few weeks, Parr's boss, Samuel Sulliman, pulled him aside to explain that Agnew would soon be entering a plea to end the investigation. As part of the deal, he would have to resign. Parr's job would be to escort Agnew to the Baltimore federal courthouse.

Next, Sulliman gave Parr an order: He could tell no one about the trip, not even their superiors.

Upon learning that the vice president might resign, the Secret Service would be required to rush agents to protect the House speaker, next in line for the presidency. Such a move would draw the attention of reporters. Agnew didn't want news to leak before his resignation became official, and he asked his detail to keep it quiet.

"I only knew about it because Sam told me, and Sam was sworn to secrecy," Parr said of his boss in a 2008 oral history. On Oct. 10, the vice president's motorcade made a quick stop at the White House where Agnew dropped off his resignation letter.

Next they headed to the Baltimore federal courthouse.

Agnew's resignation was announced by his attorney, and the former vice president expeditiously pleaded no contest to failing to report $29,500 in federal taxes in 1967. In exchange, federal prosecutors declined to bring far more serious charges of bribery, extortion and conspiracy. (The Justice Department alleged in court papers that Agnew accepted at least $87,500 in kickbacks in exchange for issuing no-bid contracts. A Maryland judge later determined that Agnew had accepted $147,000 in bribes over a two-year span).

Attorney General Elliott Richardson argued that leniency was justified due to the "historic magnitude" of Agnew's resignation and felony conviction. The judge ultimately agreed with the attorney general, sentencing Agnew to three years of probation and ordering him to pay a $10,000 fine.

Forty minutes later, Parr and other agents pushed their way through crowds of onlookers and reporters on their way to the motorcade. Before he could get settled in the front passenger seat, Parr said he heard his radio erupt with the voice of an irate superior.

The official demanded to know why the agency had not been informed Agnew was going to resign. Upon learning from news reports of Agnew's departure, the agency had to scramble to find agents to protect Democratic House Speaker Carl Albert.

"Something could have happened!" the supervisor yelled.

In retrospect, Parr said, he had made a mistake in keeping the secret, writing that "we had allowed ourselves to be drawn in, to the possible detriment of a protectee (Albert), the country, and our careers."

ANALYSIS

The right finds familiar go-to villain in Soros

By Jonathan Weisman and Andrew Higgins
The New York Times

Billionaire George Soros, 92, has spent a chunk of his fortune in support of Democratic causes. Soros, a Hungarian Jew, survived the Holocaust. **DAMON WINTER/THE NEW YORK TIMES 2018**

For more than a quarter-century, from East Asia to Central Europe to the United States, the reclusive financier George Soros has been cast as a puppet master by conspiracy theorists, who have branded him as the man behind the curtains for crises as varied as currency collapses, immigration surges and general moral laxity.

Now, Soros, a billionaire and frequent donor to Democratic causes, has been credited by the right with a new achievement: the indictment of Donald Trump.

The Manhattan district attorney, Alvin Bragg, was "hand-picked and funded by George Soros," Trump declared last week as news of his indictment was breaking.

The descriptor "Soros-backed" was attached to Bragg's name by Ron DeSantis, the Florida governor and potential White House rival of Trump; Rep. Elise Stefanik of New York, a member of the House Republican leadership; Sen. Rick Scott of Florida, the last head of the Senate Republican campaign arm; and Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene of Georgia, the far-right firebrand.

The right's fixation with Soros has waxed and waned for years, but the tumult surrounding Trump's indictment has given new life to what critics have long contended is a fixation tinged with antisemitic bigotry.

Soros, a Hungarian Jew, survived the Holocaust, fled communism and became one of the single largest funders of democracy promotion, anti-Communism and liberal education around the globe.

"We understand that when someone makes comments about 'Soros-backed prosecutors,' that on its own is not necessarily antisemitic," said Jonathan Greenblatt, CEO of the Anti-Defamation League, a Jewish civil rights group.

"But when a person or a political party repeatedly and relentlessly makes wild claims such as that there is a 'cabal of globalists backed by Soros destroying our country,'" Greenblatt said, "that is invoking a classic anti-Jewish conspiracy theory, and it should be condemned."

Trump and his allies have singled out Soros for years, Greenblatt added.

The remarkable dexterity of Soros' supposed power has only added to the surreality of his critics' charges.

In 1997, the prime minister of Malaysia blamed the financier for his nation's economic collapse. Now-disgraced former House Speaker Dennis Hastert suggested that Soros' efforts to counter George W. Bush's reelection bid in 2004 may have been financed by "drug money."

Trump hinted in 2018 that Soros was financing migrant caravans that were making their way to the U.S. border. Figures on the right have also implausibly claimed that Soros has funded the "great replacement" of white Americans with people of color, and the 2017 white supremacist rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, as a "false flag" event to harm their cause.

The Hungarian leader Viktor Orban has made Soros his go-to villain in pursuit of what he calls "illiberal democracy" — an all-purpose scapegoat whenever his government faces a crisis it can't handle.

Orban first discovered Soros' potential as a politically useful enemy during Europe's 2015 migrant crisis. That is when Orban accused nongovernmental organizations funded in part by Soros of encouraging desperate people from Africa and the Middle East to pour into Hungary as part of a plot to dilute the native population and to provide a pool of future liberal voters.

This message, became the centerpiece of his Fidesz party's campaign ahead of a general election in 2018. Billboards went up across the country featuring pictures of the financier smiling and the slogan: "Let's not let George Soros have the last laugh."

Fidesz proposed a so-called Stop Soros bill to ban organizations judged to support migration and also to tax groups receiving foreign funding — a bill aimed less at halting migration than at curbing the influence of civil society groups viewed as hostile to Fidesz.

The indictment of Trump has re-centered Soros in American politics — and rekindled the debate over whether criticism of a Democratic megadonor who is Jewish can be labeled bigotry.

Soros, after all, has hit back at Trump too.

In February, at a rare public address at the annual Munich Security Conference in Germany, Soros called the former president a "confidence trickster whose narcissism grew into a disease."

Soros went on to predict that Trump would lose the Republican nomination, run as a third-party candidate and provoke a landslide victory for the Democrats.

Conservative columnist Charles C.W. Cooke argued in The National Review that Soros' active involvement in politics, including the push to elect liberal district attorneys like Bragg, makes him fair game, and that charges of antisemitism are out of line.

"This is America," he wrote. "In free countries, free people are allowed to argue for whichever sort of elected officials they prefer. And in return, other free people are permitted to criticize them."

Soros' involvement with Bragg's election is indirect.

In 2021, during a heated Democratic primary, the political arm of the self-described racial justice organization Color of Change pledged $1 million to support Bragg's campaign. Shortly afterward, Soros gave the organization a $1 million gift, one of several donations that he gave to the group totaling about $4 million since 2016.

While Soros declined an interview request, a spokesperson for Soros said that the financier and the Manhattan district attorney had never met, and that no contributions to Color of Change were earmarked for Bragg when he was a candidate.

Additionally, Color of Change's political action committee, which must stay independent of political candidates it endorses, did not meet its pledge of support to Bragg, spending about half of its promised $1 million.

"I think some on the right would rather focus on far-fetched conspiracy theories than on the serious charges against the former president," Soros said in a text to the news organization Semafor.

Soros' influence on liberal politics is just as complicated.

His 2021 donation of $125 million to his own political action committee, Democracy PAC II, made him by far the largest donor of the 2022 midterms. But the PAC spent only a fraction of that money, about $11 million, more than half of which went to one organization, the Senate Majority PAC, the Democrats' semi-official super PAC funding the party's efforts to hold the Senate.

Soros, 92, does not speak publicly as much as he once did, but in Munich, he appeared to understand the irony of his desire to shape world events without unduly altering reality. It is that shaping of events that has invariably infuriated his detractors.

"As participants we want to change the world in our favor," he said. "As observers we want to understand reality as it is."

"These two objectives," he added, "interfere with each other."

Chicago Tribune

CHICAGO SPORTS

Chicago's best sports section, as judged by the Associated Press Sports Editors

GIANTS 16, WHITE SOX 6

Giants first baseman J.D. Davis (7) celebrates with teammates after hitting a grand slam in the ninth inning Thursday at Guaranteed Rate Field. **EILEEN T. MESLAR / CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

An early scare

White Sox trying not to panic after hosting brief but mind-numbing series against the Giants

Paul Sullivan
In the Wake of the News

The White Sox were in town long enough to unpack, get a nice meal, serve up 13 home runs to the Giants, give infielder Hanser Alberto two relief appearances and lose two games in embarrassing fashion in front of their fans.

After the briefest of homestands, the Sox packed up after a 16-6 loss to the Giants and got on a plane to Pittsburgh to start a six-game trip.

If the Sox were a dating app, they'd be a quick "swipe left." And if first impressions are lasting, this team is deep trouble.

We saw enough this homestand to discover manager Pedro Grifol has no problem sticking with struggling starters or sending the same position player out to the mound twice in three days to save his bullpen.

We saw Andrew Vaughn and Tim Anderson chirping at Giants pitchers who had the audacity to retire them. We learned Anderson getting himself ejected early in Wednesday's game was OK with

Turn to Sullivan, *Page 3*

UP NEXT
White Sox at Pirates
3:12 p.m. Fri., NBCSCH, MLBN

■ Eloy Jiménez said he feels "pretty normal" as he recovers from a low-grade left hamstring strain. **Page 3**

BEARS

Tempting talent in backfield

Robinson draws raves from evaluators but need isn't a fit

By Dan Wiederer | Chicago Tribune

Approach the evaluation with an open mind and you'll see why many NFL talent evaluators can't stop fixating on Texas running back Bijan Robinson.

Scan through Robinson's junior season stats — 258 carries, 1,580 yards, 18 touchdowns — and it's easy to acknowledge the elite production.

Check out his combine measurables, too. The 37-inch vertical leap, the 10-foot, 4-inch broad jump, the 4.46-second time in the 40-yard dash. Yep, those pass muster as well.

Then turn on the game video where week after week, series after series last season, Robinson put on a clinic in how to dizzy and demoralize defenses.

He showed patience and power, speed and vision.

Robinson can go 78 yards untouched like he did to poor Texas-San Antonio in September. Or he can become a human pinball for an entire afternoon, as he was during a 243-yard, four-touchdown effort against Kansas in November.

At a stage in the pre-draft process when every prospect in this class has had his skill set heavily examined with even the smallest flaws detected and debated, few around the NFL can find much wrong with Robinson, who was a unanimous All-American and the winner of the Doak Walker Award as the nation's top running back last season.

Jim Nagy, an NFL scout for 18 years who now is the executive director of the Senior Bowl, finished his Robinson report this week and left with his jaw dropped.

"(He) looks like the all-state kid pulled down to play JV games," Nagy tweeted Wednesday. "This is an early congratulations to whichever team picks him."

ESPN analyst Todd McShay ranks Robinson as the fourth-best prospect in the entire class, behind only Alabama quarterback

Turn to Bears, *Page 6*

Texas running back Bijan Robinson carries the ball against Kansas State on Nov. 5 in Manhattan, Kan. **REED HOFFMANN/AP**

ON THE CLOCK
20 Days until the NFL Draft begins on April 27. The Bears have the ninth pick in the first round, two picks in the second round (53, 61) and one in the third (64).

BULLS

Finding a way to balance rest and prepartion

With Bulls locked in at No. 10, final 2 games don't mean a lot

By Julia Poe | Chicago Tribune

MILWAUKEE — With their play-in position secured as the No. 10 seed in the Eastern Conference, the Bulls enter the final weekend of the regular season with the goal of balancing rest and preparation.

After losing to the Bucks on Wednesday, the Bulls are set to travel to face the ninth seed Wednesday.

Before that single-elimination game, the Bulls will face the Mavericks in Dallas on Friday night and then play host the Pistons on Sunday.

Coach Billy Donovan said veteran stars DeMar DeRozan, Zach LaVine and Nikola Vučević likely will sit out Friday. But Donovan aims to play the entirety of the roster for at least part of Sunday's game to get the Bulls into rhythm for the play-in tournament.

"My feeling would be that Zach, DeMar, Vooch, those guys who have logged a lot of minutes would sit down with medical to

Turn to Bulls, *Page 2*

UP NEXT
Bulls at Mavericks
7:30 p.m. Fri., NBCSCH

JAE C. HONG/AP

MASTERS
ROUND 1 AT A GLANCE

■ **Three at the top:** Four-time major champ Brooks Koepka (above), a surprise defector to Saudi-based LIV Golf, is in a three-way share of a two-stroke lead at the Masters with former U.S. Open champ Jon Rahm of Spain and 25-year-old Viktor Hovland of Norway.

■ **Tough start:** Tiger Woods shot an opening round of 74, leaving him in contention to play the weekend but hardly to win. It was the worst opening round for Woods at the Masters since 2005, when he followed a 74 with 65-66-71 to capture the fourth of his five green jackets. Woods is now a combined 16 over for his last four rounds at Augusta National. More coverage on **Page 6**

LEADERBOARD

Viktor Hovland	31-34—	65
Brooks Koepka	32-33—	65
Jon Rahm	33-32—	65
Jason Day	34-33—	67
Cameron Young	34-33—	67
Seven tied at		68

SKY

Able to catch their breath off the court

New WNBA program helping Sky stars Harrison, Copper

By Julia Poe | Chicago Tribune

Isabelle Harrison isn't used to rest.

When the WNBA season ended, the forward was accustomed to her offseason routine: jet lag, international flights, two-a-day practices and tournaments with a club team halfway around the world. This is standard operating procedure for WNBA players, most of whom spend the entire offseason playing in European leagues.

But this year looks different for Harrison, one of 10 WNBA athletes who accepted a player marketing agreement through the league. For those involved, the PMA program offers a cherished rarity: time.

"I'm only 29," the new Sky player told the Tribune. "I'm finally resting. My body — it's entirely different."

Playing in two leagues isn't a practice born purely out of love for the game — it's a necessity. WNBA athletes earned an average salary of $102,751 in 2022, compared with the NBA average of $9.7 million. The WNBA season spans only 40 games, providing less opportunity for both competition and exposure in the U.S.

Turn to WNBA, *Page 2*

Team	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
BULLS	@DAL 7:30 p.m. | NBCSCH		DET Noon | NBCSCH		
BLACKHAWKS		@SEA 9 p.m. | NBCSCH		MIN 8 p.m. | ESPN	@PIT 6:30 p.m. | NBCSCH+
CUBS	TEX 1:20 p.m. | Apple TV+	TEX 3:05 p.m. | Marquee, FS1	TEX 1:20 p.m. | Marquee	SEA 6:40 p.m. | Marquee	SEA 6:40 p.m. | Marquee
SOX	@PIT 3:12 p.m. | NBCSCH, MLBN	@PIT 5:35 p.m. | NBCSCH	@PIT 12:35 p.m. | NBCSCH+	@MIN 1:10 p.m. | NBCSCH, MLBN	@MIN 6:50 p.m. | NBCSCH
FIRE		MIN 7:30 p.m. | Apple TV+			
RED STARS		Mexico (exh.) 2 p.m. | FuboTV			

Bulls

from Page 1

determine the game against Dallas," Donovan said.

"My feeling is they have to play some against Detroit, unless someone's got an illness or an injury or it's just not good physically. To take two games off when they've been so used to playing every other day — I think that rhythm is important."

Rest games could help secondary-rotation players such as Patrick Williams, Ayo Dosunmu and Coby White, who could benefit from more minutes. And for DeRozan — who has been struggling with a strain in his right hip and thigh since mid-December — taking a night off could allow for recovery that the grind of the regular season rarely affords.

But too much rest ahead of a must-win game also could become a burden if players grow rusty and out of sync with one another.

"It's always a tricky thing because you always want to find and keep a rhythm," DeRozan said. "With that, you don't want to feel like you've had too much rest, especially going into a one-game elimination. I never try to think past tomorrow. I just try to take tonight and see how I feel tomorrow. We got to have a rhythm, individually and team-wise. So we'll figure it out over the next couple days."

Rest also could be key for guard Alex Caruso, who has played through a sprain on the top of his left foot for three weeks. Caruso did not play Wednesday in the second game of a back-to-back and has missed five of the last 13 games. Donovan said the main issue for Caruso is a buildup of pain when he's forced to play too many minutes over a short time.

The Bulls knew Caruso would be dealing with this injury for the rest of the season, and the guard is known for his high pain tolerance and willingness to grit through injuries. But the injury has affected Caruso's mobility, forcing Donovan to pull him out of a March 18 game against the Heat after the guard wasn't moving right.

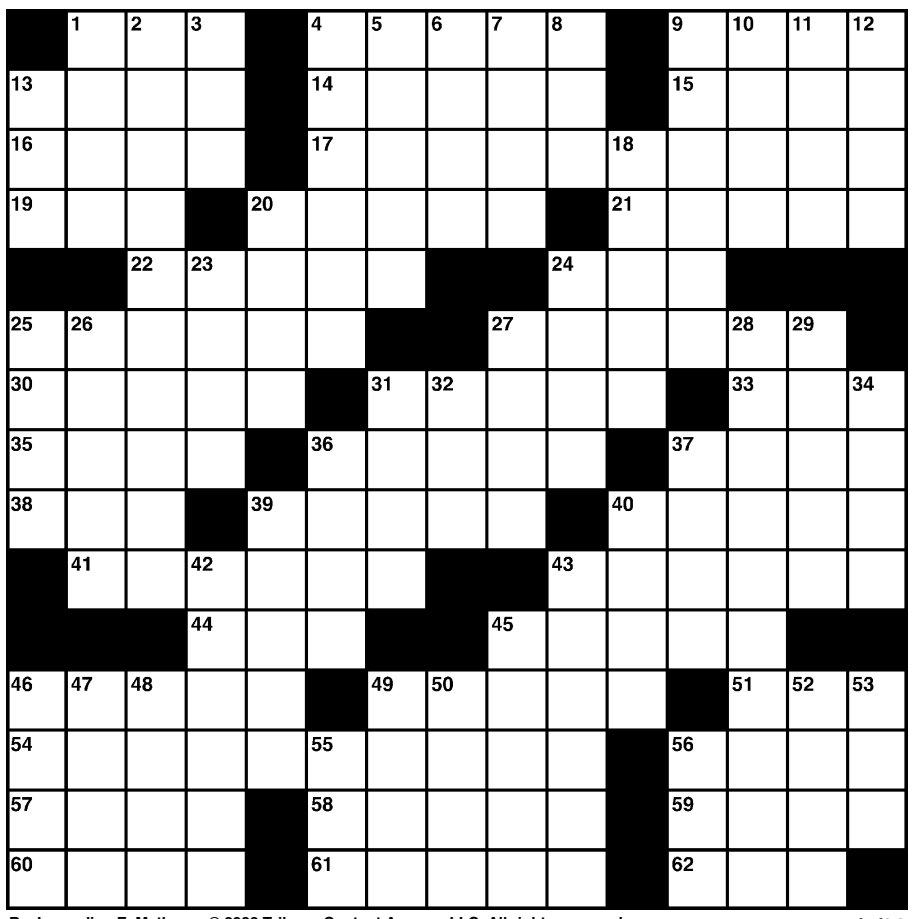
"He's got a high pain threshold — that's really, really not the issue," Donovan said. "It's how well he can move and plant and cut with the pain. When he can't do the things that he's typically been able to do at the level he does it, he knows that he can't be as productive.

"He wants to be as productive as he can and he doesn't want to be a liability. When he gets to a place, you can just tell. You know where he's at."

A few extra days of rest won't fully heal Caruso's injury, but they could provide enough time for the guard to enter the play-in game closer to his typical agility.

Bulls' Zach LaVine, Patrick Beverley and DeMar DeRozan sit on the bench during Tuesday's loss to the Hawks. **CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

Crossword



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4/7/23

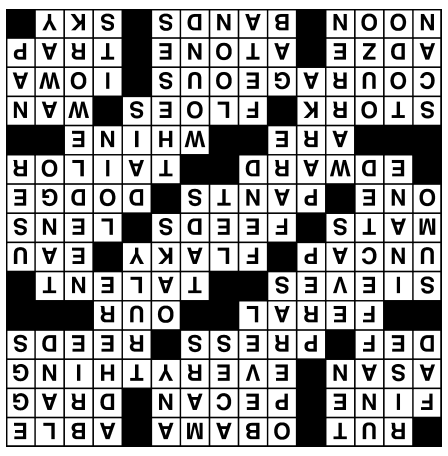
ACROSS

1 Wheel track in dirt
4 Winner in 2008
9 Suffix for adapt or wash
13 Acceptable
14 __ pie
15 Boring event
16 As dumb __ ox
17 The whole kit and caboodle
19 ABC followers
20 Squeeze
21 Bamboo shoots
22 Wild
24 TV's "Days of __ Lives"
25 Strainers
27 Natural flair
30 Take the top off
31 Unreliable
33 __ Claire, WI
35 Wrestling pads
36 Nourishes
37 Part of the eye
38 Half and half
39 Trousers
40 Avoid
41 Brother of King Charles III
43 Man of the cloth?
44 "__ we there yet?"
45 Be a fussbudget
46 Long-legged bird
49 Drifting ice masses
51 Obi-__ Kenobi
54 Brave
56 Pres. Hoover's state of birth
57 Wood-shaping tool
58 Make reparations
59 Pitfall
60 Mealtime
61 Musical groups
62 "Big __ Country"; Montana

DOWN

1 Go higher
2 __ by; indifferent to
3 Bill denomination
4 "Tosca" & "Carmen"
5 Carved table edge
6 Large spades
7 Candy bar company
8 Not __ longer; no more
9 Stick like glue
10 Fondue cheese
11 Come to shore
12 Fragile edibles
13 Passing craze
18 "__ yours"; letter closing
20 Abbr. in some high school names
23 Gabor & Mendes
24 Sturdy trees
25 Japan's national sport
26 Cuckoo
27 Small amounts
28 Embroidery
29 Dance for two
31 __ for oneself; be independent
32 Permit
34 Moocher
36 Cost to ride
37 Tender cut of meat
39 Warm jacket
40 Orator's platform
42 President Harding
43 Grad school papers
45 Injury
46 MRI, for one
47 Commotion
48 Greek liqueur
49 Crumbly cheese
50 Diving bird
52 Get __; escape
53 Siesta
55 Idle chatter
56 "__ Complicated"; Streep film

Solutions



WNBA

from Page 1

As a result, WNBA players go to Europe for lucrative contracts and intense competition. But this also creates a complete lack of physical balance for players, who forgo preventive rest, recovery and treatment — like Sun forward Alyssa Thomas, who adjusted her shooting form to play multiple seasons with two torn labrums due to lack of time for surgery.

For Harrison and Sky teammate Kahleah Copper, the PMA program has offered physical relief. Copper used the extra time afforded to begin weight lifting for the first time in her career, a step she feels already has paid off in speed and explosiveness.

"The way that my body feels, being able to work on my skills beyond a game, beyond the competition — it's huge," Copper told the Tribune. "I'm used to playing all year, but that can wear you down. This opportunity is huge for me in terms of rest but being able to make a living."

Copper and Harrison were selected for this year's program with eight other WNBA players: Arike Ogunbowale, Ariel Atkins, Dearica Hamby, Diamond DeShields, DiDi Richards, Kelsey Mitchell, Napheesa Collier and Jasmine Thomas.

The group showcases the league's goal to target younger players on a rising trajectory. But it also reflects a growing desire to keep its best players stateside year-round as the WNBA approaches prioritization, a new mechanism aimed at ending the two-season pattern.

This year, all players with three or more years of experience in the WNBA will face fines if they do no report to camp by May 19. These fines will increase incrementally for each day missed and could eventually result in a full-season suspension.

In 2024, players will face the same penalties if they don't report by either the start of training camp or May 1, depending on which date comes first.

Along with those punitive restrictions, WNBA Commissioner Cathy Engelbert hopes the PMA program will offer a steeper incentive for more players to stay in the U.S. during the offseason.

"We knew that if we could find ways to pay the players more in the offseason to do marketing on behalf of the league that prioritization for that subset of players would become a no-brainer," Engelbert told the Tribune.

The WNBA budgeted $1 million for the PMA program this season with each player's earnings capped at $250,000. Only three players — Betnijah Laney, Hamby and Collier — were selected in the program's first year, which was less extensive because of restrictions caused by the Omicron wave of the pandemic. But this year, the league has been able to expand to a more full-fledged concept.

PMA players spend their offseason partnering with league-affiliated events tailored to their own interests: walking the runway at New York Fashion Week, making appearances at their college alma maters, speaking to young athletes at NBA All-Star Weekend.

Engelbert knows the program won't appeal to every WNBA athlete. For instance, 2021 MVP Jonquel Jones turned down an offer to instead play in the Turkish league. But for players such as Copper, the program has offered a much-needed chance to breathe.

For the first time in years, Copper hasn't had to choose basketball over crucial life events — Valentine's Day, her nieces' birthdays — that were previously the natural casualties of a year divided between two leagues and two continents.

For Harrison, the prospect of an offseason not cramped into a handful of weeks feels almost luxurious.

"That's something that I've never had," she said. "Every time I came back into the States, I was planning everything I missed out on. But now I have ample time."

The PMA program is one facet of an initiative to increase marketability and offseason financial support for players. Teams are required to spend at least $50,000 — with a cap of $100,000 — on their own marketing agreements designed to embed players into the fabric of their local markets. They also can offer $50,000 bonuses for time off to incentivize players to stay put in the offseason.

Through these mechanisms, Engelbert hopes the league can create flexibility in how players expand their revenue streams outside of their team salaries.

"It's not one size fits all for any one player," Engelbert said.

This is a learning opportunity: The WNBA still is growing its ability to activate through corporate partners, who Engelbert said often don't fully understand the scope of pairing with individual players.

"This is all part of the broader landscape of how we're trying to elevate the players' brands so that they're more known, they're more recognized," Engelbert said. "That will drive higher valuation of any new partnership, whether it's a patch on their uniform, a place on the court, a personal endorsement from a player."

Player marketing agreements will continue to expand, and the combined budget for team and league agreements will increase to $2.2 million in 2024. But the ultimate goal is for the program to become obsolete as players and brands establish — and maintain — their own ecosystem.

In the meantime, the league will look to its players for new opportunities.

Copper hopes to see more players invited into the PMA program next season. Harrison believes a deeper connection with the Athletes Unlimited league — which was broadcast on the WNBA League Pass this year — would provide another outlet for players to balance hoops and rest.

But both agree the initial year of the program has been a critical improvement to create a more feasible future in which WNBA players play only in the WNBA.

"What we're doing right now is baby steps," Copper said. "Whether this is a test or trial or whatever you want to call it, this has been an amazing ride and it will only grow from here."

Sullivan

from Page 1

Grifol because he was showing "passion," and that starter Lance Lynn was a "warrior" Thursday for trying to pitch through the fifth inning on a bad day.

"It's a long season," Anderson said. "This is just the second series. So we've just got to keep pushing and not sit in this moment. Embrace it and learn from it."

The Sox can mitigate the damage with a strong showing in Pittsburgh and Minnesota. If not, it could be a really long season.

Catcher Seby Zavala said "one bad series doesn't mean we're done" and that "panic" is not a word that needs to be on anyone's mind.

"If we panic we're just going to shoot ourselves in the foot," Zavala said.

The Sox can't afford any more injuries, especially to their feet.

The 13 home runs in a three-game series tied a Giants franchise record, set in 1961 in Milwaukee. The 15 home runs allowed over the first seven games set a Sox franchise record.

Grifol repeatedly said Lynn "battled" and "gave us everything he had." Maybe Lynn deserved a postgame snow cone. He gave up eight runs on nine hits over 4 ⅓ innings, allowing three of the Giants' five home runs.

"I wasn't good," Lynn said. "There's no way to sugarcoat it. All in all, it was a piss-poor day."

After giving up three singles and a walk during the two-run fourth, Lynn was sent back out for the fifth trailing 6-3. Grifol said he knew his bullpen options were limited, adding "at that point you start thinking about (using) a position player."

That would be Alberto, who made a major-league record 10 appearances for the Los Angeles Dodgers last season and is on pace for 46 appearances.

"I don't know if that's who they are or they came in hot," Grifol said of the Giants' slugging. "We'll find out."

We'll also find out whether Eloy Jiménez's offseason conditioning program can keep him on the field after his first hamstring injury. The header on an item in the Sox game notes Thursday read: "Best Ability is Availability." The item noted Lynn, Anderson, Jiménez, Yoán Moncada and Luis Robert Jr. "all missed significant time in '22."

But Jiménez was already on the 10-day injured list, and Moncada was out of the lineup against left-hander Alex Wood. Moncada has been one of the league's hottest hitters but got the day off. Grifol said it was to keep Moncada "fresh and healthy."

"They could play four days in a row and have a low workload," he said. "Or they could play three days in a row and have a very high workload. So it's all about that. We're monitoring that kind of stuff, and we think that that's going to turn out to be a very effective method for us to keep these guys on the field, and that's how we're going to approach it."

The Sox need Moncada and Jiménez to have big years and for Anderson to avoid getting ejected from games. His first ejection of the season didn't bother Grifol.

"Tim Anderson is a passionate player, an exciting player, and part of that passion comes with a little bit of an edge, and that's how he reacted," Grifol said. "Tim is a smart kid, he knows what he's doing. I don't have a problem with that.

"That's how he plays the game. That's how I want him to play the game. That's what we want as an organization to bring to this team. For me, I don't have a problem with it."

Anderson agreed.

"Yeah, we're always trying to find a positive," he said. "We're always competing. Competing at a high level is something I always want to do and just keep going."

Anderson wasn't in the batter's box Wednesday when Logan Webb struck him out. He was ejected moments later for complaining to Webb that he was quick-pitched. Webb didn't feel Anderson should've been tossed, but it's too late to matter.

Anderson declined to revisit the incident and said anyone watching understood what occurred.

"You guys seen what happened, you see what I said," he said. "You have all the resources that you need to understand the situation. We should just keep going and move on and not really make it a topic. It was a topic (Wednesday). I'm all about moving forward and trying to find the positivity."

Moving forward is the only option for these White Sox, who can't afford to be looking back.

Jiménez: 'Pretty normal'

Sox outfielder/DH mending low-grade left hamstring strain

By LaMond Pope
Chicago Tribune

Eloy Jiménez's workout before Thursday's game at Guaranteed Rate Field included some running, and the Chicago White Sox outfielder/designated hitter said he feels "pretty normal" as he recovers from a low-grade left hamstring strain.

Jiménez suffered the injury while running from first to third in the seventh inning Monday, and the Sox placed him on the 10-day injured list retroactive to Tuesday.

"I felt something and I tried to finish the game, but it was hurting a little bit," Jiménez said. "But in the next two days, I've been feeling way better."

The Sox said Wednesday that Jiménez will miss an estimated two to three weeks.

"I feel good," Jiménez said. "I don't want anything like this to happen, but this is baseball and it is what it is."

Sox manager Pedro Grifol is taking the glass-half-full view of the situation.

"I look at it, the work that he put in in the offseason put him in a position where he came in today, two days after (it happened), and he's running and he's strong and he's hitting," Grifol said before Thursday's 16-6 loss to game the San Francisco Giants. "Things like that are going to happen. It's part of the game. It could be the weather.

"The glass-half-full side of me tells me, 'You know what? Good job in the offseason. Great job in the offseason. You put yourself in a position where you're strong to recover from these types of injuries.' We are all extremely optimistic that this is not going to take long."

Jiménez agreed the offseason work was helpful, saying he was available "if I needed to pinch hit or play today."

Added Grifol: "It's so early in the year that you'd always rather err on the side of caution than turn this thing into a longer period of time when it could be just a 10-day thing.

"He's so valuable to us and he means so much to our lineup. We want to make sure that he's healthy when we get him back on the field. Completely healthy."

Jiménez's mindset as he rebounds from the setback? "Just moving forward and try to do my best."

White Sox starter Lance Lynn reacts after giving up a two-run homer to the Giants' Mike Yastrzemski in the fifth inning Thursday in Chicago.

GIANTS 16, WHITE SOX 6

5 home runs sink Sox

They fall 16-6 in loss to the Giants, give up 13 homers in series

By LaMond Pope
Chicago Tribune

Lance Lynn was one out away from escaping trouble without any damage in the first inning Thursday against the Giants.

The White Sox starter quickly got ahead in the count 1-2 facing Michael Conforto with runners on second and third. Conforto connected on Lynn's next pitch, an 88.6-mph cutter, for a three-run homer.

For the second time in three games, the Sox could not keep the ball in the park. They allowed five home runs in a 16-6 loss to the Giants in front of 18,261 at Guaranteed Rate Field.

The Giants hit seven homers in Monday's series opener, beating the Sox 12-3. They out-homered the Sox 13-1 in the series while winning two of the three.

"It was a bad series," Lynn said. "When we made mistakes, they made it hurt. That will happen. Unfortunately it happens during your first homestand, so that sucks. We have to make better pitches, quality pitches, and that's something we are very capable of doing."

The 13 homers were the most by the Giants in a three-game series since they also hit 13 from April 28-30, 1961, at the Milwaukee Braves, according to MLB.com's Sarah Langs.

"They just didn't miss the pitches they were looking for," Sox catcher Seby Zavala said. "A couple balls down the middle and they didn't miss today. They didn't miss much this week.

White Sox catcher Seby Zavala strikes out during the eighth inning on Thursday. **EILEEN T. MESLAR/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS**

"Good teams don't miss their chance. They didn't miss and we didn't pitch great, but we'll get back on the horse."

The 13 homers allowed by the Sox are the most for the team in a three-game span since July 31-Aug. 2, 2007, when they gave up 15 against the Yankees in New York.

"Every mistake we made they squared it up," Sox manager Pedro Grifol said. "I don't know if that's who they are or if they came in hot, I'm not sure. We'll find out. For the most part in these three games, every mistake we made they made pretty contact on it."

The Sox have allowed 15 home runs, a franchise record through the first seven games of a season.

"Not a good series," Zavala said. "Have to find a way to wash this away and move on to the next. We have to play (Friday in Pittsburgh), and just because we have one bad game, one bad series doesn't mean we're done."

Lynn gave up three homers Thursday, two with two outs. Blake Sabol's two-out solo homer in the second, the first of his career, gave the Giants a 4-0 lead. Lynn exited after giving up a two-run homer to Mike Yastrzemski with one out in the fifth.

Lynn allowed eight runs on nine hits with five strikeouts and three walks in 4 ⅓ innings.

"I wasn't good," Lynn said. "There's no way to sugarcoat it. Just one of those things. I just didn't make the pitches, and they made me pay for it."

Lynn allowed at least eight runs in a start for the fifth time in his career and for the first time since July 11 of last season against the Cleveland Guardians.

The three homers are the most he allowed in a game since giving up three on July 29, 2022, against the Oakland Athletics.

"He battled and gave us everything he had," Grifol said. "That's really all I can say. He's a warrior out there. He left a couple pitches up early, and obviously they really put good swings on them."

Wilmer Flores hit a two-run homer against Sox reliever José Ruiz in the sixth. Ruiz allowed two home runs on Monday, including a grand slam.

J.D. Davis hit a grand slam Thursday against Sox position player Hanser Alberto in the ninth inning. It was Alberto's second time pitching in the series.

"You've always got to find ways to get through games like this so you don't compromise tomorrow and the next day," Grifol said.

BASEBALL

American League

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
Tampa Bay	6	0	1.000	—	—	6-0	W-6	3-0	3-0
New York	4	2	.667	2	—	4-2	W-1	4-2	0-0
Toronto	4	3	.571	2½	½	4-3	W-3	0-0	4-3
Baltimore	3	3	.500	3	1	3-3	L-1	0-0	3-3
Boston	3	4	.429	3½	1½	3-4	W-1	2-4	1-0

CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
Cleveland	5	2	.714	—	—	5-2	W-1	0-0	5-2
Minnesota	4	2	.667	½	—	4-2	L-2	0-0	4-2
Chicago	3	4	.429	2	1½	3-4	L-1	1-2	2-2
Detroit	2	5	.286	3	2½	2-5	L-2	0-1	2-4
Kansas City	1	6	.143	4	3½	1-6	L-3	1-6	0-0

WEST	W	L	PCT	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
Los Angeles	4	2	.667	—	—	4-2	W-1	0-0	4-2
Texas	4	2	.667	—	—	4-2	W-1	4-2	0-0
Houston	3	4	.429	1½	1½	3-4	W-1	3-4	0-0
Oakland	2	4	.333	2	2	2-4	L-1	2-4	0-0
Seattle	2	5	.286	2½	2½	2-5	L-1	2-5	0-0

National League

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
Atlanta	6	1	.857	—	—	6-1	W-4	1-0	5-1
Miami	3	4	.429	3	½	3-4	W-2	3-4	0-0
New York	3	4	.429	3	½	3-4	L-3	0-0	3-4
Philadelphia	1	5	.167	4½	2	1-5	L-1	0-0	1-5
Washington	1	6	.143	5	2½	1-6	L-4	1-5	0-1

CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
Milwaukee	5	1	.833	—	—	5-1	W-5	3-0	2-1
Pittsburgh	4	2	.667	1	+1	4-2	W-3	0-0	4-2
Cincinnati	3	2	.600	1½	+½	3-2	L-1	3-2	0-0
Chicago	2	3	.400	2½	½	2-3	W-1	1-2	1-1
St. Louis	2	4	.333	3	1	2-4	L-3	2-4	0-0

WEST	W	L	PCT	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
Los Angeles	4	2	.667	—	—	4-2	W-2	4-2	0-0
Arizona	3	3	.500	1	—	3-3	W-1	0-0	3-3
San Francisco	3	3	.500	1	—	3-3	W-1	0-0	3-3
Colorado	3	4	.429	1½	½	3-4	W-1	1-0	2-4
San Diego	3	4	.429	1½	½	3-4	L-2	3-3	0-1

BOX SCORES

BOSTON 6, DETROIT 3

Boston	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Verdugo rf	4	1	1	0	0	.333
Devers 3b	4	2	2	2	1	.323
Turner dh	3	0	0	0	0	.280
Yoshida lf	3	1	2	0	0	.250
Duvall cf	3	1	1	3	0	.458
Casas 1b	4	0	0	0	0	.130
Arroyo 2b	3	1	0	0	0	.158
McGuire c	3	0	1	0	2	.308
Hernandez ss	4	0	0	1	0	.136
TOTALS	**31**	**6**	**7**	**6**	**3**	

Detroit	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Vierling rf-3b	4	0	1	0	0	.333
Baez ss	4	0	0	0	1	.080
Greene cf	4	0	0	0	2	.296
Torkelson 1b	4	1	1	0	2	.222
Haase lf	3	0	1	0	2	.130
c-Carpenter rf	1	0	1	0	0	.250
Cabrera dh	3	0	1	1	0	.176
Schoop 3b	1	1	0	0	0	.111
a-Maton 3b-2b	1	0	0	0	0	.067
Rogers c	4	1	1	2	1	.250
Kreidler 2b	2	0	0	0	1	.154
b-Meadows rf-lf	2	0	0	0	0	.238
TOTALS	**33**	**3**	**6**	**3**	**9**	

Boston	**001**	**104**	**000**		**6**	**7**	**1**
Detroit	**021**	**000**	**000**		**3**	**6**	**0**

a-grounded out for Schoop in the 6th. b-grounded out for Kreidler in the 7th. c-doubled for Haase in the 8th. **E:** Hernandez (3). **LOB:** Boston 3, Detroit 8. **2B:** Devers (3), Yoshida (1), Carpenter (3). **HR:** Devers (2), off Turnbull; Duvall (3), off Cisnero; Rogers (2), off Sale. **RBIs:** Hernandez (4), Devers 2(4), Duvall 3(12), Rogers 2(4), Cabrera (2). **SB:** Yoshida (2). **Runners left in scoring position:** Boston 2(Hernandez 2); Detroit 4(Haase, Rogers, Greene, Schoop). **RISP:** Boston 1for 6; Detroit 1for 8. **Runners moved up:** Casas, Baez. **GIDP:** Casas, Yoshida, Maton. **DP:** Boston 1(Casas); Detroit 2(Baez, Torkelson; Baez, Torkelson).

BOSTON	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Sale, W, 1-0	5	4	3	3	3	7	11.25
Schreiber, H, 2	1	0	0	0	1	1	2.25
Martin, H, 2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0.00
Brasier, H, 1	1	1	0	0	1	1	6.75
Jansen, S, 1-1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.00

DETROIT	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Turnbull, L, 0-2	5⅔	5	5	5	2	1	13.50
Cisnero	1⅓	1	1	1	0	1	9.00
Englert	1⅓	1	0	0	1	1	1.69
Lange	⅔	0	0	0	1	0	3.38

Inherited runners-scored: Cisnero 2-2, Lange 2-0. **HBP:** Turnbull (Turner). **Umpires:** Home, Edwin Moscoso; First, Larry Vanover; Second, Chris Guccione; Third, Dan Merzel. **Time:** 2:32. **A:** 44,650(41,083).

LATE WEDNESDAY: CLEVELAND 6, OAKLAND 4

Cleveland	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Kwan lf	5	0	2	1	0	.323
Rosario ss	5	0	0	0	3	.182
Ramirez dh	3	1	1	0	0	.310
Bell 1b	5	0	1	0	2	.091
Gonzalez rf	5	1	1	0	0	.182
Arias 3b	3	0	0	0	1	.167
Gimenez 2b	4	2	1	2	1	.321
Straw cf	4	2	2	0	1	.364
Gallagher c	3	0	1	2	0	.167
b-Brennan ph	1	0	0	1	0	.222
Viloria c	0	0	0	0	0	.000
TOTALS	**38**	**6**	**9**	**6**	**8**	

Oakland	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Kemp 2b	3	1	0	0	1	.227
Peterson 3b	3	0	0	0	0	.071
a-Diaz ph-3b	1	1	0	0	1	.150
Aguilar dh	5	1	2	3	0	.278
Brown lf	4	0	0	0	1	.208
Laureano rf	4	0	0	0	1	.227
Langeliers c	4	0	1	0	1	.211
1-Capel pr	0	0	0	0	0	.375
Perez c	0	0	0	0	0	.400
Noda 1b	3	1	1	1	2	.250
Allen ss	4	0	0	0	0	.000
Ruiz cf	3	0	0	0	0	.211
TOTALS	**34**	**4**	**4**	**4**	**7**	

Cleveland	**000**	**002**	**200**		**2**	**6**	**9**	**0**
Oakland	**000**	**000**	**040**		**0**	**4**	**4**	**2**

a-walked for Peterson in the 8th. b-grounded out for Gallagher in the 10th. 1-ran for Langeliers in the 9th. **E:** Laureano (1), Langeliers (2). **LOB:** Cleveland 12, Oakland 6. **2B:** Gallagher (1), Aguilar (1). HR: Noda (1), off Sandlin; Aguilar (1), off Herrin. **RBIs:** Gallagher 2(2), Gimenez 2(4), Brennan (1), Kwan (8), Noda (1), Aguilar 3(3). SB: Peterson (1), Straw (5), Capel 2(2), Kwan (1). CS: Kwan (1). **Runners left in scoring position:** Cleveland 6(Ramirez, Gonzalez 2, Bell, Gallagher, Kwan); Oakland 5(Allen, Langeliers, Brown, Aguilar 2). **RISP:** Cleveland 3for 17; Oakland 1for 10. **Runners moved up:** Bell, Brennan, Kemp.

CLEVELAND	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Gaddis	6	1	0	0	2	4	3.72
Sandlin	1⅔	1	1	1	0	1	2.25
Herrin, BS, 0-1	⅓	1	3	3	2	0	10.13
Morgan, W, 1-0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0.00
Clase, S, 2-3	1	0	0	0	0	1	4.50

OAKLAND	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Muller	5⅔	4	2	2	3	5	2.53
Acevedo	⅓	1	0	0	0	0	8.10
Martinez	2	3	2	2	3	1	3.60
Familia	1	0	0	0	1	1	0.00
Jackson, L, 0-1	1	1	2	1	1	1	2.45

Inherited runners-scored: Acevedo 2-2. IBB: off Muller (Ramirez). **HBP:** Muller (Gimenez). **WP:** Jackson. **Umpires:** Home, Lance Barrett; First, Ramon De Jesus; Second, Alfonso Marquez; Third, Doug Eddings. T: 2:58. **A:** 4,930(46,847).

NATIONAL LEAGUE LEADERS

BATTING AVG.	G	AB	H	R	AVG.
Swanson ChC	5	20	10	6	.500
B.Anderson Mil	6	18	9	7	.500
Arraez Mia	7	24	11	2	.458
Goldschmidt StL	6	20	9	3	.450
Happ ChC	5	16	7	6	.438
Gorman StL	5	16	7	3	.438
Stott Phi	6	23	10	0	.435
W.Smith LAD	5	19	8	5	.421
Reynolds Pit	6	24	10	6	.417
Bogaerts SD	6	22	9	5	.409

Home Runs: Reynolds, Pittsburgh, 4; 10 tied at 3.
Runs Batted In: B.Anderson, Milwaukee, 10; W.Smith, Los Angeles, 10; T.Thompson, Los Angeles, 8; Vosler, Cincinnati, 7; Winker, Milwaukee, 7; Bogaerts, San Diego, 7; Cron, Colorado, 7; Reynolds, Pittsburgh, 7; Olson, Atlanta, 7; 3 tied at 6.
Pitching: J.Urías, Los Angeles, 2-0; 22 tied at 1-0.
Strikeouts: Webb, San Francisco, 16; Keller, Pittsburgh, 15; Luzardo, Miami, 15; Mikolas, St. Louis, 12; Urias, Los Angeles, 12; Gallen, Arizona, 10; Peterson, New York, 10; six players tied with 9.

TORONTO 6, KANSAS CITY 3

Toronto	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Bichette ss	5	1	2	1	1	.324
Guerrero Jr. dh	5	2	3	1	0	.407
Varsho lf	4	1	2	1	2	.357
M.Chapman 3b	4	0	1	2	1	.481
Merrifield 2b	4	0	1	0	0	.235
Belt 1b	4	0	0	0	3	.053
Jansen c	4	0	0	0	3	.067
Biggio rf	4	1	1	1	2	.231
Springer rf	0	0	0	0	0	.241
Kiermaier cf	4	1	1	0	0	.381
TOTALS	**38**	**6**	**11**	**6**	**12**	

Kansas City	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Witt Jr. ss	5	1	2	1	1	.154
Melendez c	3	1	0	0	2	.095
Perez dh	4	1	1	0	0	.261
Pasquantino 1b	4	0	1	1	1	.143
Olivares lf	4	0	2	1	1	.267
Massey 2b	3	0	1	0	1	.158
a-Reyes ph	1	0	0	0	0	.077
Lopez 2b	0	0	0	0	0	.111
Dozier 3b	3	0	0	0	3	.059
Pratto rf	4	0	1	0	2	.143
Eaton cf	4	0	0	0	1	.000
TOTALS	**35**	**3**	**8**	**3**	**12**	

Toronto	**210**	**110**	**100**		**6**	**11**	**0**
Kansas City	**000**	**000**	**030**		**3**	**8**	**0**

a-grounded out for Massey in the 8th. **LOB:** Toronto 5, Kansas City 8. **2B:** Varsho (3), M.Chapman (6), Kiermaier (1), Olivares (1). **HR:** Biggio (1), off Lyles; Guerrero Jr. (2), off Lyles; Witt Jr. (1), off Richards. **RBIs:** M.Chapman 2(7), Bichette (3), Biggio (1), Guerrero Jr. (6), Varsho (4), Witt Jr. (3), Pasquantino (2), Olivares (3). **Runners left in scoring position:** Toronto 3(Belt, Merrifield, Biggio); Kansas City 5(Pasquantino 2, Pratto 2, Eaton). **RISP:** Toronto 3for 8; Kansas City 2for 10. **Runners moved up:** Jansen, M.Chapman, Perez.

TORONTO	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Gausman, W, 1-1	6	4	0	0	2	7	0.00
Bass	1	0	0	0	0	2	3.86
Richards	0	2	3	3	1	0	13.50
Mayza	⅓	2	0	0	0	0	3.38
Garcia, H, 2	⅔	0	0	0	0	2	6.00
Cimber, S, 1-1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0.00

KANSAS CITY	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Lyles, L, 0-2	5⅔	8	5	5	0	9	4.91
Garrett	⅓	0	0	0	0	1	6.00
Cuas	2	3	1	1	0	1	3.86
Barlow	1	0	0	0	0	1	0.00

Richards pitched to 3 batters in the 8th Inherited runners-scored: Bass 2-0, Mayza 2-2, Garcia 2-0, Garrett 1-0. **Umpires:** Home, Manny Gonzalez; First, Adam Hamari; Second, Jerry Layne; Third, Vic Carapazza. **Time:** 2:30. **A:** 10,401(38,427).

LATE WEDNESDAY: L.A. ANGELS 4, SEATTLE 3

Los Angeles	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Ohtani p-dh-dh	2	0	1	1	0	.286
Ward lf	4	1	0	0	2	.370
Phillips lf	0	0	0	0	0	---
Trout cf	3	0	1	1	1	.368
Renfroe rf	3	0	0	0	2	.167
Drury 2b-1b	4	0	0	0	3	.200
Lamb 1b	4	0	0	0	0	.200
Fletcher ss	0	0	0	0	0	.100
Urshela 3b	4	2	2	0	0	.333
Rengifo ss-2b	4	0	0	0	2	.150
O'Hoppe c	4	1	1	2	1	.278
TOTALS	**32**	**4**	**5**	**4**	**11**	

Seattle	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Rodriguez cf	4	1	0	0	2	.267
France 1b	3	1	1	1	1	.357
Suarez 3b	4	0	2	2	1	.357
Raleigh c	4	0	0	0	1	.273
Hernandez rf	3	0	1	0	2	.167
Wong 2b	3	0	0	0	1	.063
Pollock dh	2	0	0	0	1	.167
b-Hummel ph-dh	1	0	0	0	0	.000
Kelenic lf	2	0	1	0	1	.200
a-Haggerty ph-lf	2	1	1	0	0	.167
Crawford ss	4	0	2	0	0	.227
TOTALS	**32**	**3**	**8**	**3**	**10**	

Los Angeles	**020**	**000**	**200**		**4**	**5**	**0**
Seattle	**100**	**000**	**200**		**3**	**8**	**0**

a-singled for Kelenic in the 7th. b-grounded out for Pollock in the 8th. **LOB:** Los Angeles 7, Seattle 8. **2B:** Urshela (1), France (4). HR: O'Hoppe (2), off Flexen. **RBIs:** O'Hoppe 2(8), Trout (3), Ohtani (6), Suarez 2(5), France (5). **Runners left in scoring position:** Los Angeles 5(Lamb 2, Drury 3); Seattle 4(Hernandez, Pollock 2, Rodriguez). **RISP:** Los Angeles 2for 10; Seattle 2for 6. **Runners moved up:** Rengifo. **GIDP:** Crawford. **DP:** Los Angeles 1 (Lamb, Rengifo, Lamb).

LOS ANGELES	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Ohtani, W, 1-0	6	3	1	1	4	8	0.75
Moore, H, 2	⅔	1	1	1	0	1	5.40
Herget, H, 3	1⅓	3	1	1	0	0	2.70
Quijada, S, 1-1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0.00

SEATTLE	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Flexen, L, 0-1	5	2	2	2	2	4	3.00
Brash	1	0	0	0	2	2	2.70
D.Castillo	⅔	1	2	2	1	1	10.13
Munoz	⅓	2	0	0	1	1	0.00
Murfee	1	0	0	0	0	1	0.00
Gott	1	0	0	0	0	2	0.00

Inherited runners-scored: Herget 1-1, Munoz 2-2. **HBP:** Ohtani 2(France,Hernandez). **WP:** Ohtani, Brash. **Umpires:** Home, Pat Hoberg; First, Nestor Ceja; Second, Charlie Ramos; Third, Brian O'Nora. T: 2:55. **A:** 25,648(47,929).

AMERICAN LEAGUE LEADERS

through Wednesday's games

BATTING AVG.	G	AB	H	R	AVG.
M.Chapman Tor	6	23	12	4	.522
Duvall Bos	6	24	11	8	.458
Moncada ChW	6	25	11	3	.440
Torres NYY	6	19	8	5	.421
Franco TB	6	24	10	4	.417
Larnach Min	6	23	9	4	.391
Ward LAA	6	27	10	6	.370
Trout LAA	6	19	7	5	.368
Guerrero Jr. Tor	6	22	8	3	.364
Straw Cle	7	22	8	6	.364

Home Runs: Raley, Tampa Bay, 3; Gallo, Minnesota, 3; Tucker, Houston, 3; 22 tied at 2.
Runs Batted In: Alvarez, Houston, 10; Duvall, Boston, 9; O'Hoppe, Los Angeles, 8; Siri, Tampa Bay, 8; Mullins, Baltimore, 8; Tucker, Houston, 8; Kwan, Cleveland, 8; Gallo, Minnesota, 7; Franco, Tampa Bay, 7; 10 tied at 6.
Pitching: Cole, New York, 2-0; Gibson, Baltimore, 2-0; McClanahan, Tampa Bay, 2-0; May, Oakland, 2-1; 20 tied at 1-0.
Strikeouts: Cole, New York, 19; Cease, Chicago, 18; Ohtani, Los Angeles, 18; deGrom, Texas, 18; Lopez, Minnesota, 16; Gausman, Toronto, 14.

SAN FRAN. 16, CHI. WHITE SOX 6

San Fran.	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Wade Jr. lf	2	1	1	0	1	.250
Johnson cf	2	0	0	0	1	.333
Flores 1b	5	2	2	2	0	.364
Pederson dh	4	0	1	2	2	.217
b-Beaty ph-p	1	1	1	0	0	.500
Villar 2b	5	3	2	0	1	.273
Conforto rf	4	3	3	3	1	.240
Davis 3b	6	2	3	5	1	.313
Yastrzemski cf-lf	6	1	1	2	0	.240
Estrada ss	6	1	3	1	1	.409
Sabol c	6	2	3	1	1	.222
TOTALS	**47**	**16**	**20**	**16**	**9**	

White Sox	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Anderson ss	5	0	1	2	2	.276
Robert Jr. cf	4	0	1	0	1	.323
Colas cf	1	0	0	0	1	.273
Vaughn 1b	3	0	1	1	0	.273
Burger dh	2	0	1	0	0	.500
a-Sheets dh-rf	1	1	0	0	0	.200
Alberto 3b-p	5	1	2	0	0	.333
Benintendi lf	5	1	1	1	1	.267
Andrus 2b	4	1	2	2	1	.185
Zavala c	5	2	1	0	2	.375
Gonzalez rf-3b	4	0	1	0	2	.333
TOTALS	**39**	**6**	**11**	**6**	**10**	

San Francisco	**310**	**222**	**024**		**16**	**20**	**2**
Chi. White Sox	**020**	**100**	**003**		**6**	**11**	**0**

a-walked for Burger in the 4th. b-singled for Pederson in the 9th. **E:** Estrada (1), Sabol (1). **LOB:** S.F.11, ChW 11. **2B:** Villar (1), Wade Jr. (1), Estrada (1), Burger (1), Benintendi (2), Andrus (1). **HR:** Conforto (2), off Lynn; Sabol (1), off Lynn; Yastrzemski (2), off Lynn; Flores (1), off Ruiz; Davis (2), off Alberto. **RBIs:** Conforto 3(4), Sabol (1), Pederson 2(6), Yastrzemski 2(5), Flores 2(2), Davis 5(6), Estrada (3), Anderson 2(3), Vaughn (6), Benintendi (1), Andrus 2 (2). **SB:** Zavala (1), Andrus (2). **Runners left in scoring position:** San Francisco 6(Yastrzemski, Pederson, Flores, Villar, Johnson 2); Chicago 7 (Alberto 4, Gonzalez, Vaughn, Zavala). **RISP:** San Francisco 5for 14; Chicago 4for 13.

SAN FRANCISCO	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Wood	3	6	3	1	2	3	3.00
Junis, W, 2-0	4	2	0	0	2	4	1.42
Brebbia	1	0	0	0	0	2	3.00
Beaty	1	3	3	3	1	1	27.00

WHITE SOX	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Lynn, L, 0-1	4⅓	9	8	8	3	5	9.00
Ruiz	1⅔	2	2	2	1	1	22.09
Santos	2	5	2	2	0	3	7.36
Alberto	1	4	4	4	1	0	36.00

Inherited runners-scored: Junis 2-1. **HBP:** Ruiz (Wade Jr.), Santos (Villar). **Umpires:** Home, John Libka; First, Nate Tomlinson; Second, James Hoye; Third, D.J. Reyburn. **Time:** 2:50. **A:** 18,261 (40,241).

LATE WEDNESDAY: TORONTO 3, KANSAS CITY 0

Toronto	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Springer rf	4	0	1	0	0	.241
Bichette ss	5	0	0	0	2	.310
Guerrero Jr. 1b	4	2	3	1	0	.364
Varsho cf-lf	4	1	3	0	0	.333
M.Chapman 3b	4	0	1	2	0	.522
Kirk c	4	0	1	0	0	.250
Belt dh	4	0	0	0	3	.067
Merrifield lf	3	0	1	0	0	.231
Kiermaier cf	0	0	0	0	0	.412
Biggio 2b	4	0	0	0	1	.222
TOTALS	**36**	**3**	**10**	**3**	**6**	

Kansas City	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Witt Jr. ss	4	0	0	0	1	.095
Melendez rf	4	0	0	0	2	.111
Pasquantino 1b	2	0	0	0	0	.118
Perez c	4	0	1	0	0	.263
Massey 2b	3	0	0	0	0	.125
a-Olivares ph	1	0	0	0	1	.182
Pratto lf	3	0	0	0	2	.000
b-Dozier ph	1	0	0	0	0	.071
Reyes dh	2	0	0	0	1	.083
Lopez 3b	2	0	0	0	0	.111
Bradley Jr. cf	2	0	1	0	0	.200
TOTALS	**28**	**0**	**2**	**0**	**7**	

Toronto	**000**	**001**	**020**		**3**	**10**	**0**
Kansas City	**000**	**000**	**000**		**0**	**2**	**0**

a-struck out for Massey in the 9th. b-flied out for Pratto in the 9th. **LOB:** Toronto 8, Kansas City 6. **2B:** Varsho (2). HR: Guerrero Jr. (1), off Clarke. **RBIs:** M.Chapman 2(5), Guerrero Jr. (5). **Runners left in scoring position:** Toronto 2(M.Chapman, Belt); Kansas City 1(Melendez). **RISP:** Toronto 1for 4; Kansas City 0for 4. LI**DP:** Melendez. **GIDP:** Guerrero Jr.. **DP:** Toronto 1 (Springer, Bichette, Springer); Kansas City 1(Lopez, Massey, Pasquantino).

TORONTO	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Manoah, W, 1-0	7	1	0	0	4	5	4.35
Swanson, H, 2	1	0	0	0	0	1	2.70
Romano, S, 3-3	1	1	0	0	0	1	0.00

KANSAS CITY	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Greinke, L, 0-2	6	7	1	1	1	4	2.38
Clarke	2	3	2	2	1	1	6.75
Coleman	1	0	0	0	0	1	8.31

HBP: Manoah (Lopez). **Umpires:** Home, Vic Carapazza; First, Manny Gonzalez; Second, Adam Hamari; Third, Jerry Layne. T: 2:17. **A:** 10,015(38,427).

ON THIS DATE

APRIL 7

1925: Babe Ruth collapsed in a railroad station in Asheville, N.C. He would be hospitalized in New York and operated on 10 days later for an ulcer.
1964: Shea Stadium in New York opened for the first regular season game. The Mets lost to the Pirates, 4-3.
1969: The Yankees spoiled the managerial debut of Ted Williams by defeating the Senators 8-4 in the opener at Washington's RFK Stadium. President Nixon and a crowd of 45,000 attended.
1969: Dodgers relief pitcher Bill Singer was credited with the first official save. Los Angeles beat Cincinnati, 3-2. The game started with Cincinnati's Pete Rose hitting Don Drysdale's first pitch for a home run. Drysdale threw his next pitch to Bobby Tolan and Tolan hit it for a home run. After the first two pitches, Drysdale settled down and threw a shutout.
1970: Three weeks after moving from Seattle to Milwaukee, the former Pilots played their first game as the Brewers and lost 12-0 to the visiting Angels.
1973: Cleveland set an attendance record for day games and opening-day games by attracting 74,420 fans. The Indians beat the Detroit Tigers, 2-1.
1977: The expansion Toronto Blue Jays began their major league odyssey with a 9-5 victory over the White Sox at Toronto's Exhibition Stadium. Al Woods, pinch hitting for Steve Bowling in the fifth inning, became the 11th pinch hitter with a home run in his first at-bat.
1979: Ken Forsch of the Houston Astros pitched a no-hitter against Atlanta to duplicate the no-hitter tossed by his brother Bob of the Cardinals against the Phillies on April 16, 1978. They are the first brothers to pitch no-hitters.
1984: Detroit's Jack Morris pitched a no-hitter against the Chicago White Sox despite giving up six walks. It was the first Tigers no-hitter since Jim Bunning's in 1958.
1987: Atlanta's Rick Mahler pitched his third opening day shutout tying an NL record.
1988: Cincinnati Reds rookie third baseman Chris Sabo ties a major league record with eleven assists in one game.
1998: On the same day that Major League Baseball returned to Wisconsin 28 years earlier, NL baseball returns to Milwaukee for the first time in 32 years.
2022: Opening Day of the 2022 season is finally here, having been delayed by a week by the 2021-2022 lockout.

COLORADO 1, WASHINGTON 0

Washington	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Thomas rf	3	0	1	0	1	.

SCOREBOARD

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA
z-Boston	77	60	12	5	125	286	166
x-Toronto	77	46	21	10	102	262	213
x-Tampa Bay	78	45	27	6	96	270	237
Florida	78	40	31	7	87	274	261
Buffalo	76	37	32	7	81	271	278
Ottawa	78	37	34	7	81	246	254
Detroit	77	35	33	9	79	231	252
Montreal	78	30	42	6	66	219	289

METRO.	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA
x-Carolina	77	50	18	9	109	251	198
x-New Jersey	78	49	21	8	106	271	217
x-N.Y. Rangers	78	46	21	11	103	267	210
N.Y. Islanders	78	39	30	9	87	227	214
Pittsburgh	78	38	30	10	86	249	254
Washington	77	34	34	9	77	240	243
Philadelphia	77	29	35	13	71	209	257
Columbus	77	24	45	8	56	205	307

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA
x-Colorado	76	46	24	6	98	256	210
x-Dallas	77	42	21	14	98	267	213
x-Minnesota	77	44	23	10	98	232	209
Winnipeg	78	43	32	3	89	235	218
Nashville	77	39	30	8	86	216	227
St. Louis	78	36	35	7	79	255	288
Arizona	78	27	38	13	67	216	282
Chicago	77	25	46	6	56	190	280

PACIFIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA
x-Vegas	78	48	22	8	104	259	223
x-Edmonton	79	47	23	9	103	312	257
x-Los Angeles	78	45	23	10	100	267	245
Seattle	77	43	26	8	94	272	243
Calgary	79	37	27	15	89	256	246
Vancouver	77	34	36	7	75	263	290
San Jose	77	22	39	16	60	226	295
Anaheim	78	23	45	10	56	196	320

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.
x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division
z-clinched conference

THURSDAY'S RESULTS
Buffalo at Detroit, late
Columbus at New Jersey, late
Minnesota at Pittsburgh, late
Ottawa at Florida, late
Toronto at Boston, late
Washington at Montreal, late
Tampa Bay at N.Y. Islanders, late
Carolina at Nashville, late
N.Y. Rangers at St. Louis, late
Philadelphia at Dallas, late
Chicago at Vancouver, late
Los Angeles at Vegas, late
Arizona at Seattle, late
Colorado at San Jose, late

FRIDAY'S GAMES
No games scheduled

SATURDAY'S GAMES
Carolina at Buffalo, 11:30a.m.
Pittsburgh at Detroit, noon
Vegas at Dallas, 2:30p.m.
Edmonton at San Jose, 3p.m.
Anaheim at Arizona, 4:30p.m.
Florida at Washington, 6p.m.
Montreal at Toronto, 6p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at Columbus, 6p.m.
Nashville at Winnipeg, 6p.m.
Tampa Bay at Ottawa, 6p.m.
Philadelphia at N.Y. Islanders, 6:30p.m.
New Jersey at Boston, 7p.m.
St. Louis at Minnesota, 7p.m.
Calgary at Vancouver, 9p.m.
Chicago at Seattle, 9p.m.
Colorado at Los Angeles, 9:30p.m.

SUNDAY'S GAMES
Boston at Philadelphia, 5p.m.
Colorado at Anaheim, 7:30p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS
N.Y. Rangers 6, Tampa Bay 3
Calgary 3, Winnipeg 1
Edmonton 3, Anaheim 1

AUTO RACING

NASCAR CUP SERIES

P	MANUFACTURER	PTS	PB	W
1	Chevrolet	268	--	5
2	Toyota	239	-29	1
3	Ford	236	-32	1

DRIVER POINTS	ST	W	T5	T10	PT
Alex Bowman	7	0	3	6	263
Ross Chastain	7	0	3	4	259
Christopher Bell	7	0	4	5	229
William Byron	7	2	3	3	228
Kevin Harvick	7	0	3	4	227
Kyle Larson	7	1	3	3	222
Joey Logano	7	1	2	4	222
Kyle Busch	7	1	2	4	215
Martin Truex Jr	7	0	0	1	198
Brad Keselowski	7	0	1	3	196
Ryan Blaney	7	0	1	3	188
Denny Hamlin	7	0	0	2	188
Tyler Reddick	7	1	3	3	187
Austin Cindric	7	0	0	2	175
Chris Buescher	7	0	1	2	164
Ricky Stenhouse Jr	7	1	1	2	161
Daniel Suarez	7	0	1	3	158
Michael McDowell	7	0	0	1	156
Corey Lajoie	7	0	1	1	155
Ty Gibbs	7	0	0	3	147
Chase Briscoe	7	0	0	1	122
Bubba Wallace	7	0	1	1	118
Todd Gilliland	7	0	0	1	17
A.J. Allmendinger	7	0	0	1	113
Erik Jones	7	0	0	1	105
Austin Dillon	7	0	0	1	105
Aric Almirola	7	0	0	0	94
Ryan Preece	7	0	0	0	88
Noah Gragson	7	0	0	0	87
Harrison Burton	7	0	0	0	84
Cody Ware	7	0	0	0	65
Chase Elliott	2	0	1	1	49
Ty Dillon	7	0	0	0	37
B.J. McLeod	5	0	0	0	27
Travis Pastrana	1	0	0	0	26
Jenson Button	1	0	0	0	19
Jordan Taylor	1	0	0	0	16
Jimmie Johnson	2	0	0	0	11
Kimi Raikkonen	1	0	0	0	8
Justin Haley	7	0	0	1	1
Conor Daly	2	0	0	0	1

PLAYOFF POINTS	W	PL	PTS	PPT
William Byron	2	1	228	15
Kyle Larson	1	1	222	6
Joey Logano	1	2	222	6

ODDS

MLB — **FRIDAY**

American League

FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG	LINE
N.Y Yankees	-116	at Baltimore	-102
Seattle	Off	at Cleveland	Off
Houston	-120	at Minnesota	+102
at Tampa Bay	-225	Oakland	+188
Toronto	-112	at LA Angels	-104

National League

FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG	LINE
at NY Mets	-152	Miami	+128
at Philadelphia	-196	Cincinnati	+164
at Atlanta	Off	San Diego	Off
at Milwaukee	-162	St. Louis	+136
at Colorado	-126	Washington	+108
LA Dodgers	-225	at Arizona	+188

Interleague

FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG	LINE
Texas	-118	at Chi Cubs	+100
Ch. White Sox	-136	at Pittsburgh	+116
at San Francisco	-168	Kansas City	+142

NBA — **FRIDAY**

FAVORITE	LINE	O/U	UNDERDOG
Houston	1	(off)	at Charlotte
at Washington	off	(off)	Miami
at Indiana	7½	(Off)	Detroit
at Boston	Off	(Off)	Toronto
at Brooklyn	7	(Off)	Orlando
at Atlanta	Off	(Off)	Philadelphia
at Milwaukee	Off	(Off)	Memphis
at New Orleans	off	(off)	New York
at Dallas	8	(Off)	Chicago
at Sacramento	Off	(Off)	Golden State
at LA Lakers	Off	(Off)	Phoenix

NBA FINALS CHAMPION

Milwaukee	+285	Boston	+350
Phoenix	+475	Golden State	+850
Denver	+900	Philadelphia	+1000
L.A. Lakers	+1200	Memphis	+1800
L.A. Clippers	+3300	Cleveland	+4500
Sacramento	+5000	New York	+8000
Miami	+10000	Minnesota	+15000
New Orl.	+15000	Atlanta	+25000
Dallas	+25000	Toronto	+25000
Brooklyn	+30000	Okla. City	+50000
Chicago	+75000	Utah	+125000

For the latest odds, go to FanDuel Sportsbook, https://sportsbook.fanduel.com/

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC	W	L	PCT	GB
y-Boston	55	25	.688	—
x-Philadelphia	52	27	.658	2½
x-New York	47	33	.588	8
Brooklyn	44	36	.550	11
Toronto	40	40	.500	15

SOUTHEAST	W	L	PCT	GB
Miami	42	37	.532	—
Atlanta	41	39	.513	1½
Orlando	34	45	.430	8
Washington	34	46	.425	8½
Charlotte	26	54	.325	16½

CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB
z-Milwaukee	58	22	.725	—
x-Cleveland	50	30	.625	8
Chicago	38	42	.475	20
Indiana	34	46	.425	24
Detroit	16	64	.200	42

WESTERN CONFERENCE

SOUTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB
y-Memphis	50	30	.625	—
New Orleans	41	39	.513	9
Dallas	38	42	.475	12
San Antonio	20	59	.253	29½
Houston	20	60	.250	30

NORTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB
z-Denver	52	27	.658	—
Minnesota	40	40	.500	12½
Oklahoma City	38	42	.475	14½
Utah	36	43	.456	16
Portland	33	46	.418	19

PACIFIC	W	L	PCT	GB
y-Sacramento	48	32	.600	—
x-Phoenix	44	35	.557	3½
L.A. Clippers	42	38	.525	6
Golden State	42	38	.525	6
L.A. Lakers	41	39	.513	7

x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division
z-clinched conference

THURSDAY'S RESULTS
Cleveland at Orlando, late
Miami at Philadelphia, late
Portland at San Antonio, late
Oklahoma City at Utah, late
Denver at Phoenix, late

FRIDAY'S GAMES
Detroit at Indiana, 6p.m.
Houston at Charlotte, 6p.m.
Miami at Washington, 6p.m.
Orlando at Brooklyn, 6:30p.m.
Philadelphia at Atlanta, 6:30p.m.
Toronto at Boston, 6:30p.m.
Memphis at Milwaukee, 7p.m.
New York at New Orleans, 7p.m.
Chicago at Dallas, 7:30p.m.
Golden State at Sacramento, 9p.m.
Phoenix at L.A. Lakers, 9:30p.m.

SATURDAY'S GAMES
Denver at Utah, 2:30p.m.
Minnesota at San Antonio, 3p.m.
Portland at L.A. Clippers, 3p.m.

SUNDAY'S GAMES
Atlanta at Boston, noon
Charlotte at Cleveland, noon
Detroit at Chicago, noon
Houston at Washington, noon
Indiana at New York, noon
Milwaukee at Toronto, noon
Orlando at Miami, noon
Philadelphia at Brooklyn, noon
Golden State at Portland, 2:30p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Phoenix, 2:30p.m.
Memphis at Oklahoma City, 2:30p.m.
New Orleans at Minnesota, 2:30p.m.
Sacramento at Denver, 2:30p.m.
San Antonio at Dallas, 2:30p.m.
Utah at L.A. Lakers, 2:30p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS
Brooklyn 123, Detroit 108
New York 138, Indiana 129
Milwaukee 105, Chicago 92
Boston 97, Toronto 93
Atlanta 134, Washington 116
New Orleans 138, Memphis 131(OT)
Dallas 123, Sacramento 119
L.A. Clippers 125, L.A. Lakers 118

INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

through Wednesday, TCH-touches per game; FCT-frontcourt touches, POSS-avg. time of possession

TOUCHES/GAME	TM	TCH	FCT	POSS
Nikola Jokic	Den	98.9	52.3	4.4
Tyrese Haliburton	Ind	94.2	32.5	7.5
James Harden	Phi	93.9	34.2	8.6
Luka Doncic	Dal	90.5	34.4	9.2
LaMelo Ball	Char	90.2	29.9	7.4
Damian Lillard	Por	88.1	37.4	7.6
Fred VanVleet	Tor	84.8	37.0	6.5
Jalen Brunson	NY	84.3	29.2	8.5
Domantas Sabonis	Sac	83.9	48.3	3.4
Pascal Siakam	Tor	80.7	41.6	4.9
Trae Young	Atl	79.9	24.6	7.9
Stephen Curry	GS	79.7	31.5	5.9
D'Angelo Russell	LAL	79.6	34.3	5.4

AVG SECONDS/TOUCH	GP	MIN	AG.
Luka Doncic	Dal	65	36.6	6.13
Jalen Brunson	NY	68	35.0	6.04
Trae Young	Atl	72	34.7	5.67
Ja Morant	Mem	60	32.1	5.89
Darius Garland	Cle	69	35.5	5.72
Spen. Dinwiddie	Brk	78	34.5	5.61
Chris Paul	Phx	58	31.9	5.60
Shai GAlexander	OKC	67	35.5	5.57
James Harden	Phi	57	37.0	5.49

POINTS/TOUCH	TM	GP	TCH	PPT
Lauri Markkanen	Utah	66	51.5	0.497
Michael Porter Jr.	Den	61	36.7	0.476
Joel Embiid	Phi	65	71.2	0.467
Norman Powell	LAC	58	35.8	0.465
Brook Lopez	Mil	78	34.3	0.463
Bojan Bogdanovic	Det	58	46.6	0.462
Klay Thompson	GS	66	48.0	0.456
Gary Trent Jr.	Tor	64	30.2	0.449
Jaren Jackson Jr.	Mem	62	41.6	0.441
Kevin Durant	Phx	46	66.3	0.438
Devin Booker	Phx	52	64.0	0.437

PAINT TOUCHES	TM	GP	TCH	PAI
Jarrett Allen	Cle	67	43.0	11.3
Deandre Ayton	Phx	66	52.0	11.2
Rudy Gobert	Min	68	44.6	11.2
Anthony Davis	LAL	54	68.6	10.6
Clint Capela	Atl	64	36.9	10.2
Domantas Sabonis	Sac	78	83.9	9.6
Ivica Zubac	LAC	74	42.6	9.0
Evan Mobley	Cle	78	60.4	8.6
Steven Adams	Mem	42	43.2	8.5
Jakob Poeltl	Tor	69	52.9	8.4
Nic Claxton	Brk	75	41.4	8.4
Jalen Duren	Det	64	35.6	8.0
Nikola Jokic	Den	68	98.9	7.9
Bam Adebayo	Mia	73	62.7	7.7
Mitchell Robinson	NY	58	13.5	7.5

POST UPS

Nikola Jokic	Den	9.2
Joel Embiid	PHI	6.5
Nikola Vucevic	CHI	5.5
Anthony Davis	LAL	5.3
Jonas Valanciunas	NO	4.9
Jusuf Nurkic	Por	4.5
Alperen Sengun	Hou	4.4
Domantas Sabonis	Sac	4.4
Luka Doncic	Dal	4.4

WNBA

2023 DRAFT ORDER
Monday at Spring Studios New York Manhattan, New York City

FIRST ROUND

1. Indiana	2. Minnesota
3. Dallas (via Atl)	4. Washington
5. Dallas (via Phx)	6. Atlanta (via NY)
7. Indiana (via Dal)	8. Atlanta (Was)
9. Seattle	10. Los An. (via Con)
11. Dallas (via Chi)	12. Minn. (via LV)

SECOND ROUND

13. Indiana	14. Los Angeles
15. Atlanta	16. Minnesota
17. Indiana (via Phx)	18. Seattle (via NY)
19. Dallas	20. Washington
21. Seattle	22. Connecticut
23. Chicago	24. Minn. (via LV)

THIRD ROUND

25. Indiana	266. Los Angeles
27. Phoenix (via Atl)	28. Minnesota
29. Phoenix	30. New York
31. Dallas	32. Washington
33. Seattle	34. Connecticut
35. Chicago	36. Las Vegas

TENNIS

ATP FAYEZ SAROFIM & CO. US CLAY COURT CHAMPIONSHIP
Thursday at River Oaks Country Club Houston, red clay, outdoors
MEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 32
Daniel Altmaier vs.
Max Purcell, ppd.
MEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 16
#1Frances Tiafoe vs.
Steve Johnson, ppd.
#4John Isner vs.
Gijs Brouwer, ppd.
#5Jeffrey John Wolf vs.
Denis Kudla, ppd.
#6Jason Kubler vs. ,
Daniel Elahi Galan, ppd.

ATP MILLENNIUM ESTORIL OPEN
Thursday at Clube de Tenis do Estoril, Estoril, Portugal, red clay, outdoors
MEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 16
Bernabe Zapata Miralles d.
#2Hubert Hurkacz, 6-7(7), 6-4, 6-2.
Quentin Halys d.
#4Roberto Bautista Agut, 7-6(5), 7-5.
#6 Miomir Kecmanovic d. Jurij Rodionov, 6-0, 6-1.
Dominic Thiem d. #8Ben Shelton, 6-2, 6-2.

ATP GRAND PRIX HASSAN II
Thursday at Royal Tennis Club de Marrakech, Marrakech, Morocco
Red clay, outdoors
MEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 16
#1Lorenzo Musetti d. Hugo Gaston, 6-2, 6-3.
#2Daniel Evans d. Alexei Popyrin, 6-1, 6-3.
Christopher O'Connell d. #3Botic van de Zandschulp, 6-7(8), 6-4, 6-0.
#4Tallon Griekspoor d. Elias Ymer, 1-6, 6-3, 6-4.
Pavel Kotov d. #7Benjamin Bonzi, 6-0, 7-6(2).
Roberto Carballes Baena d. Dimitar Kuzmanov, 2-0, retired.
Andrea Vavassori d. Jaume Munar, 6-7(4), 7-6(6), 6-4.
Alexandre Muller d. Francesco Passaro, 6-4, 6-4.

WTA CREDIT ONE CHARLESTON
Thursday at Family Circle Tennis Center, Charleston, S.C., Green clay, outdoors
WOMEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 16
#1Jessica Pegula d.
#15Irina-Camelia Begu, 7-5, 4-6, 6-4.
#2Ons Jabeur d. Caroline Dolehide, 6-3, 7-5.
#3Daria Kasatkina d. Bernarda Pera, 6-3, 7-6(3).
#4Belinda Bencic d. Shelby Rogers, 4-6, 7-5, 6-2.
Anna Kalinskaya d.
#6Victoria Azarenka, 6-4, 7-6(5).
#7Ekaterina Alexandrova d.
Julia Grabher, 6-4, 6-2.
#9Madison Keys d. #8Magda Linette, 6-2, 3-6, 6-1.
#12Paula Badosa d. Diana Shnaider, 6-1, 6-3.
LATE WEDNESDAY, ROUND OF 32
#4Belinda Bencic d. Katherine Sebov, 6-0, 6-3.
#8Magda Linette d.
Varvara Gracheva, 6-7(3), 7-5, 6-4.
Shelby Rogers d. Catherine McNally, 6-7(4), 7-5, 6-1.

WTA COPA COLSANITAS
Thursday at Centro de Alto Rendimiento, Bogota, Colombia, red clay, outdoors
WOMEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 32
#7Sara Sorribes Tormo d.
Emiliana Arango, 6-4, 6-3.
Peyton Stearns d. Elina Avanesyan, 6-4, 6-1.
Nuria Brancaccio d. Sinja Kraus, 6-2, 6-2.
Tamara Zidansek d. Mirjam Bjorklund, 7-6(3), 7-6(3).

SOCCER

MLS

EASTERN	W	L	T	PT	GF	GA
Cincinnati	4	0	2	14	8	4
Atlanta	4	1	1	13	13	9
New England	4	1	1	13	8	6
Columbus	3	2	1	10	15	8
Nashville	3	2	1	10	6	2
New York City FC	2	2	2	8	6	7
Orlando City	2	2	2	8	5	6
Philadelphia	2	3	1	7	8	8
Toronto FC	1	1	4	7	8	7
Inter Miami CF	2	4	0	6	6	7
Chicago	1	1	3	6	7	7
N.Y. Red Bulls	1	2	3	6	4	5
D.C. United	1	3	2	5	7	10
Charlotte FC	1	3	2	5	6	11
CF Montréal	1	4	0	3	3	12
WESTERN	**W**	**L**	**T**	**PT**	**GF**	**GA**
St. Louis City SC	5	1	0	15	15	5
Seattle	4	1	1	13	12	3
Los Angeles FC	3	0	2	11	9	3
Minnesota United	3	0	2	11	6	3
San Jose	3	2	1	10	6	7
FC Dallas	2	2	2	8	8	7
Austin FC	2	2	1	7	6	7
Houston	2	3	0	6	5	7
Vancouver	1	2	3	6	10	7
Portland	1	3	2	5	6	11
Real Salt Lake	1	4	0	3	3	13
LA Galaxy	0	2	3	3	3	6
Sporting KC	0	3	3	3	2	7
Colorado	0	3	3	3	2	8

Three points for win, one point for tie.

SATURDAY'S MATCHES
Philadelphia at Cincinnati, 6:30p.m.
Columbus at D.C. United, 6:30p.m.
Austin FC at Los Angeles FC, 6:30p.m.
FC Dallas at Miami, 6:30p.m.
CF Montréal at New England, 6:30p.m.
San Jose at N.Y. Red Bulls, 6:30p.m.
Atlanta at New York City FC, 6:30p.m.
Minnesota at Chicago, 7:30p.m.
LA Galaxy at Houston, 7:30p.m.
Colorado at Sporting KC, 7:30p.m.
Toronto FC at Nashville, 7:30p.m.
Charlotte FC at Real Salt Lake, 8:30p.m.
Saint Louis City SC at Seattle, 9:30p.m.
Portland at Vancouver, 9:30p.m.

NWSL

CLUB	W	L	T	PT	GF	GA
Portland	2	0	0	6	8	1
San Diego	2	0	0	6	6	3
Washington	1	0	1	4	3	2
Houston	1	0	1	4	2	1
OL Reign	1	1	0	3	2	1
Angel City	1	1	0	3	3	3
Gotham FC	1	1	0	3	2	3
North Carolina	1	1	0	3	2	3
Louisville	0	0	2	2	2	2
Chicago	0	2	0	0	3	5
Kansas City	0	2	0	0	1	5
Orlando	0	2	0	0	1	6

Three points for win, one point for tie.

FRIDAY, APRIL 14
Houston at Portland, 10:30p.m.

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

CLUB	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	PT
Arsenal	29	23	3	3	70	27	72
Man City	28	20	4	4	71	26	64
Newcastle	28	14	11	3	46	20	53
Man United	28	16	5	7	42	37	53
Tottenham	29	15	5	9	53	41	50
Brighton	27	13	7	7	51	34	46
Aston Villa	29	13	5	11	39	40	44
Liverpool	28	12	7	9	48	33	43
Brentford	29	10	13	6	46	38	43
Fulham	28	11	6	11	39	39	39
Chelsea	29	10	9	10	29	30	39
Crystal Palace	29	7	9	13	24	39	30
Leeds	29	7	8	14	38	49	29
Wolverhampton	29	7	7	15	23	42	28
West Ham	28	7	6	15	26	39	27
Everton	29	6	9	14	23	41	27
Notting. Forest	29	6	9	14	24	52	27
Bournemouth	29	7	6	16	27	57	27
Leicester	29	7	4	18	40	51	25
Southampton	29	6	5	18	23	47	23

SATURDAY'S MATCHES
Man United vs. Everton, 6:30a.m.
Aston Villa vs. Notting. Forest, 9a.m.
Brentford vs. Newcastle, 9a.m.
Fulham vs. West Ham, 9a.m.
Leicester vs. Bournemouth, 9a.m.
Tottenham vs. Brighton, 9a.m.
Wolverhampton vs. Chelsea, 9a.m.
Southampton vs. Man City, 11:30a.m.

U.S. WOMEN'S SCHEDULE (5-0-0)
Saturday: vs. Ireland, 1:30 p.m.
April 11: vs. Ireland, 5:30 p.m.

GOLF

USGA: THE 87TH MASTERS
1st of 4 rounds at Augusta National Augusta, Ga., 7,545 yards; Par: 72
LEADER CARDS

Par out	**454**	**343**	**454**	**—**	**36**
Vikto Hovland	434	342	443	—	31
Brooks Koepka	443	343	344	—	32
Jon Rahm	643	343	334	—	33
Par In	**443**	**545**	**344**	**—36**	**72**
Vikto Hovland	433	445	344	—34	65
Brooks Koepka	442	644	333	—33	65
Jon Rahm	443	444	243	—32	65

FIRST ROUND SCORES

Viktor Hovland	31-34—65	-7
Brooks Koepka	32-33—65	-7
Jon Rahm	33-32—65	-7
Jason Day	34-33—67	-5
Cameron Young	34-33—67	-5
Sam Bennett	32-36—68	-4
Sam Burns	31-37—68	-4
Shane Lowry	33-35—68	-4
Xander Schauffele	34-34—68	-4
Scottie Scheffler	33-35—68	-4
Adam Scott	34-34—68	-4
Gary Woodland	35-33—68	-4
Tony Finau	35-34—69	-3
Collin Morikawa	34-35—69	-3
Justin Rose	36-33—69	-3
Jordan Spieth	32-37—69	-3
Keegan Bradley	35-35—70	-2
Matt Fitzpatrick	37-33—70	-2
Ryan Fox	36-34—70	-2
Tom Kim	34-36—70	-2
Chris Kirk	38-32—70	-2
Cameron Smith	34-36—70	-2
Scott Stallings	35-35—70	-2
Sepp Straka	39-31—70	-2
Justin Thomas	35-35—70	-2
Patrick Cantlay	35-36—71	-1
Fred Couples	38-33—71	-1
Harris English	37-34—71	-1
Tyrrell Hatton	35-36—71	-1
Max Homa	38-33—71	-1
Sungjae Im	35-36—71	-1
Dustin Johnson	36-35—71	-1
Hideki Matsuyama	34-37—71	-1
Phil Mickelson	34-37—71	-1
Joaquin Niemann	32-39—71	-1
Patrick Reed	35-36—71	-1
Abraham Ancer	39-33—72	E
Tommy Fleetwood	35-37—72	E
Talor Gooch	36-36—72	E
Kevin Kisner	36-36—72	E
Rory McIlroy	37-35—72	E
Francesco Molinari	38-34—72	E
Harold Varner III	34-38—72	E
Mike Weir	35-37—72	E
Corey Conners	36-37—73	+1
Russell Henley	36-37—73	+1
Billy Horschel	36-37—73	+1
Si Woo Kim	37-36—73	+1
Jason Kokrak	38-35—73	+1
Adrian Meronk	35-38—73	+1
Taylor Moore	37-36—73	+1
Seamus Power	35-38—73	+1
Sahith Theegala	37-36—73	+1
Bryson DeChambeau	38-36—74	+2
Sergio Garcia	34-40—74	+2
Tom Hoge	37-37—74	+2
Kyoung-Hoon Lee	39-35—74	+2
Mito Pereira	39-35—74	+2
Thomas Pieters	37-37—74	+2
J.T. Poston	37-37—74	+2
Charl Schwartzel	38-36—74	+2
Tiger Woods	38-36—74	+2
Ben Carr	38-37—75	+3
Harrison Crowe	36-39—75	+3
Zach Johnson	36-39—75	+3
Kurt Kitayama	38-37—75	+3
Bernhard Langer	38-37—75	+3
Min Woo Lee	36-39—75	+3
Keith Mitchell	37-38—75	+3
Vijay Singh	38-37—75	+3
Adam Svensson	41-34—75	+3
Danny Willett	38-37—75	+3
Cameron Champ	41-35—76	+4
Mateo Fernandez de Oliveira	39-37—76	+4
Kazuki Higa	36-40—76	+4
Mackenzie Hughes	39-37—76	+4
Louis Oosthuizen	37-39—76	+4
Brian Harman	39-38—77	+5
Matthew McClean	37-40—77	+5
Jose Maria Olazabal	40-37—77	+5
Aldrich Potgieter	40-37—77	+5
Gordon Sargent	39-38—77	+5
Bubba Watson	40-37—77	+5
Alex Noren	41-37—78	+6
Larry Mize	38-41—79	+7
Sandy Lyle	40-41—81	+9
Kevin Na		WD
Will Zalatoris		WD

XFL FOOTBALL

NORTH	W	L	PCT	PF	PA
DC	6	1	.857	207	153
St. Louis	5	2	.714	163	127
Seattle	5	2	.714	152	122
Vegas	2	5	.286	137	175
SOUTH	**W**	**L**	**PCT**	**PF**	**PA**
Houston	4	3	.571	177	137
Arlington	3

MASTERS

At start, pain, no gain for Tiger

Obviously hindered by his leg, Woods opens with 2-over 74

By Dave Skretta
Associated Press

After his opening round at the Masters on Thursday, Tiger Woods said the pain in his right leg is "constant." **DOUG MILLS/THE NEW YORK TIMES**

AUGUSTA, Ga. — Tiger Woods split the fairway with his opening shot Thursday, confidently plucking his tee from the ground before his ball had even landed, and set off with grim-faced determination for a steamy trek around Augusta National.

The rest of his day at the Masters was mostly just grim.

There were two wicked lip-outs on the front side. A pitch shot dumped in a greenside bunker on the back. Some bad luck off the tee at 18, which left him with a painfully awkward stance. And on just about every hole, a pronounced limp — the evidence of the crash on a suburban Los Angeles road just over two years ago that crushed bones in his right leg and ankle.

By the time Woods struggled through the finishing hole, failing to get up and down from another bunker, he had shot 74 — good enough to stay in contention to play the weekend but hardly good enough to actually contend. He has never missed the cut at the Masters as a professional.

"Most of the guys are going low today. This was the day to do it," Woods said. "Hopefully tomorrow I'll be a little bit better, a little bit sharper, and kind of inch my way through it."

Or at least hobble through it.

It was the worst opening round for Woods at the Masters since 2005, when he followed a 74 with 65-66-71 to capture the fourth of his five green jackets. Recent history suggests that duplicating that comeback will be tough, though: He shot 78-78 on the weekend last year, and is now a combined 16 over for his last four rounds at Augusta National.

The four consecutive rounds over par is Woods' longest such streak since first driving down Magnolia Lane in 1995.

"Today was the opportune time to get the round under par," he said, "and I didn't do that."

The five-time champion had the best view for a couple of golfers who did.

Viktor Hovland used an eagle at the second to propel him to an opening 65, and Xander Schauffele shot 68, on a day that red numbers dominated the scoreboards.

"It's really cool just to be around him," said Hovland, who was low amateur at the Masters in 2019, when Woods won his most recent green jacket. "He's been such a huge influence to the game of golf, and obviously watched him hours growing up. And to get to play with him for the first time today was very special, and especially to play this round so well."

Woods actually outdrove both Hovland and Schauffele at the first, and was cruising along until the third, when he caught a pitch shot high on his club face and left it short of the green. Woods ran his next chip past the hole, missed a slippery downhill putt and walked off with his first bogey of the day.

Then came the lip-outs: a vicious one at the fifth, the same hole on which Woods began using his driver as a walking stick, and another at the seventh, which left him 3 over and searching for some positive vibes.

They came briefly with a birdie at the eighth, only to dissipate when Woods dumped his pitch into the bunker at No. 11 and made bogey. He looked like he might catch momentum again with a long birdie putt at the 15th and an approach stuck close for birdie at the 16th, only to watch a near-perfect drive at the 18th come to rest too close to a fairway bunker.

Woods tried several stances before planting his left foot in the grass, high above him, and digging his right in the sand. He proceeded to send a line drive from there into the greenside bunker, losing his balance and hopping away on his left leg.

"Hop on the left leg is fine," he said. "If I did it on the other one, not so fine."

Woods splashed out of that bunker, missed the par putt and began his halting walk to the clubhouse to sign his card.

"I didn't give myself very good looks," he said. "Need to do a better job of that going forward."

After the round, Woods said his right leg pain is "constant."

Obviously, Thursday was hardly vintage Woods, yet the feel around Augusta National was unmistakably classic.

Patrons stacked four-, five- and sometimes six-deep for a chance to see him, then walked quickly ahead to find a prime spot to see him again. They clapped politely when he'd tap in for par, roared like the old days for his three birdies, and showered him with adulation when his round was over.

At one point, after waiting an hour for Woods to come through and then watching him play an approach from the fairway right in front of them, one gentleman turned to his buddy and said: "Well, we can go home now."

Without a few more birdies, and a few less mistakes, that's where Woods will be headed soon, too.

MASTERS

Koepka, Rahm, Hovland fire 65s, share 2-shot lead

By Doug Ferguson
Associated Press

AUGUSTA, Ga. — Jon Rahm and Brooks Koepka shared the lead Thursday in the Masters, and that's about all they had in common.

Not the way they started their rounds at Augusta National. Certainly not the tours they represent — Rahm a loyalist on the PGA Tour, Koepka a surprise defector to LIV Golf.

All that mattered was the 7-under 65s on their cards, allowing them to join Viktor Hovland atop a leaderboard filled with red numbers and the ominous "weather warning" signs that figure to play a big role this week.

A bad forecast has been talked about almost as much as how 18 players from Saudi-backed LIV Golf would perform amid the high-stakes pressure of a major over 72 holes with a cut.

Koepka carried the flag, though he was more thrilled with having healthy legs and a bit of swagger that once led to his reputation as "Big Game Brooks."

"Once you feel good, everything changes," Koepka said.

Rahm opened with a four-putt double bogey, and on his way to the second tee thought of the famous quote from his Spanish idol, Seve Ballesteros, who once four-putted at Augusta and said, "I miss, I miss, I miss, I make."

"If you're going to make a double or four-putt, it might as well be the first hole — 71 holes to make it up," Rahm said.

That he did. The Spaniard followed with seven birdies and an eagle, and his 65 was the lowest score in Masters history by anyone who started with a double bogey.

Koepka had two birdies in his opening three holes and never really slowed, finishing with back-to-back birdies to finish off his 65. He's coming off a victory Sunday in LIV Golf, making him the first multiple winner in the fledgling circuit.

Koepka won the 2019 PGA Championship — his fourth major in a span of three years — that gave him a five-year exemption to the Masters. That runs out next year, and with LIV not getting any world ranking points, his path to Augusta is limited.

"If you win, you're fine," he said.

Hovland was among the early starters and played bogey-free, the highlight a 25-foot eagle putt on the second hole and being 7 under through 13 holes until he cooled at the end. The Norwegian star also stood out for other reasons. The azaleas are starting to lose their color from an early bloom. Hovland made up for it with his shirt.

"It's definitely a little bit out there," Hovland said. "But I think I'd rather take these than the pink pants I had last year. So we're making progress."

The warm, muggy air and relatively soft greens allowed for good scores for just about everyone. Cameron Young and Jason Day were at 67.

Defending champion Scottie Scheffler, trying to become only the fourth player to win back-to-back, was in the group at 68 that included major champions Shane Lowry, Adam Scott and Gary Woodland, along with Xander Schauffele and U.S. Amateur champion Sam Bennett.

Rory McIlroy, needing a Masters green jacket to complete the career Grand Slam, took a double bogey from the trees on the par-4 seventh and had three more bogeys to offset his good play. He wound up with a 72, already seven shots behind a world-class leaderboard.

For Koepka, it's all about feeling good. His health has long been an issue; he played the Masters in 2021 just three weeks after surgery on his broken knee cap.

His health — not to mention a nine-figure signing bonus — is one reason he went from supporting the PGA Tour to making the leap to LIV. Koepka says he started to feel healthy again toward the end of last year. He arrived in Augusta off a win.

"Get myself in contention with nine to go on Sunday," he said. "That's the whole goal."

Bears

from Page 1

Bryce Young, Ohio State quarterback C.J. Stroud and Alabama edge rusher Will Anderson.

McShay sees the chance for some lucky team to snag Robinson on Day 1 of the NFL draft on April 27 and surf the wave of his production for the entirety of his rookie contract, noting that the Texas star is, in his estimation, a better talent than Saquon Barkley was coming out of Penn State five years ago. Barkley was drafted with the No. 2 pick by the New York Giants.

"To me," McShay said, "if he's got a similar if not slightly better skill set as Saquon Barkley, then he belongs in the top five or top 10."

See where we're headed here? To Lake Forest, of course, where the Bears own a top-10 pick and at the very least have to entertain a long and detailed discussion of whether they should consider drafting Robinson in three weeks.

There are 125 reasons the Bears shouldn't use the No. 9 selection on Robinson, starting with the positional value in the NFL and moving quickly to Ryan Poles' more pressing needs to stabilize his offensive and defensive lines.

Plus, the Bears already have Khalil Herbert as an established backfield contributor and added veterans D'Onta Foreman and Travis Homer to that room in free agency. At this point, adding another back to the mix would seem to be a luxury acquisition at a time when the Bears need to be addressing needs.

NFL Network analyst Daniel Jeremiah also doesn't find it worthwhile for a team that is miles from championship contention to use a first-round pick on a running back, even one as special as Robinson.

"I don't want to waste carries on a crappy team," Jeremiah said. "I want to have all his carries over that (first) five-year period count and help push toward a championship. To take a big-time running back like that when your team stinks, you're going to waste his prime and it's not going to do anything for you. That's the conundrum with Bijan Robinson."

Still, one of the most disconcerting issues the Bears have had over time has been whiffing badly on first-round picks. This is the franchise that brought you Michael Haynes and Chris Williams, Gabe Carimi, Shea McClellin and Kevin White. Local meteorologists are trying to determine whether the winds from those whiffs contributed to this week's nasty storms.

Robinson, on the other hand, is lauded as having an extremely high NFL floor with very little risk attached.

McShay has been through all the video and been enamored by all the defenders Robinson made miss on his way to an FBS-best 91 forced missed tackles in 2022.

"And he does it with a combination of power and elusiveness for a big back at 215 pounds," McShay said.

On top of Robinson's talents as a runner, he has proved reliable in pass protection, has great hands as a receiver and checks all the boxes as a driven leader, selfless teammate and enthusiastic tone-setter.

"His character, the energy he brings, his love for the game, he's the kind of guy you want in your building," McShay said. "It's hard to find many weaknesses in his game. That's why I think he is going to be so special at the next level."

Through that lens, would there really be an avalanche of anger from the fan base if the Bears went the "best player available" route at No. 9 and took a player almost unanimously considered to be a sure thing as an impact playmaker?

Put it this way: If — or more likely when — Robinson becomes the highest-drafted running back since Barkley, no one in the league will laugh. Collectively, GMs across the NFL will nod in agreement that Robinson is on a fast track to becoming a significant difference maker as a rookie.

As Nagy said, this is an early congratulations to whichever team picks him.

In a pivotal evaluation year for Bears quarterback Justin Fields, isn't it at least a little bit intriguing to think about giving him another barrel of dynamite to work with in the offense? And isn't Robinson's talent and potential worth betting on, even if it might require a trade back from No. 9 into the mid-teens?

"He is elite," Jeremiah said. "There is no doubt about it to me. He is one of the premiere, premiere players in the draft."

Added ESPN draft analyst Mel Kiper: "He's just a natural born runner. That's what he does. He's very instinctive. ... You grade on ability. You don't grade on philosophy."

The Bears likely won't — and maybe shouldn't — seriously entertain the idea of selecting Robinson at No. 9. But if you address the evaluation with an open mind ...

At a minimum, this should be a fun exercise for Poles and his crew to complete.

Chicago Tribune
A+E

Dave Gahan, of Depeche Mode, performs at the United Center in Chicago on Wednesday. **CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS**

REVIEW DEPECHE MODE

A band still writing its history

British group explores themes of loss, desire and control at United Center tour stop

By Bob Gendron
For the Chicago Tribune

Martin Gore, of Depeche Mode, performs at the United Center.

Depeche Mode staged a black celebration Wednesday at a sold-out United Center. Performing its first tour as a duo after the death of co-founding member Andrew Fletcher in May 2022, the British band explored themes of loss, desire and control in a two-hour show that also offered guidance for getting through today's uncertain world.

Given recent circumstances and the solemn aura of its new "Memento Mori" album, it would've been understandable if Dave Gahan and Martin Gore were more downcast. Far from it. Despite many of their songs' heavy subject matter and brooding arrangements, Depeche Mode found solace, let loose and had fun — sensations that have not always come easy for the band.

Time continues to prove Depeche Mode one of the most influential and visionary groups in pop-music history, a legacy that seemed unlikely during its first decade on the fringe. The band embraced and shaped electronic music long before technology exploded the style's popularity, and the dark motifs and bleak moods of its music had an outsized impact on goth, industrial, metal and rock scenes — not to mention Chicago's own Wax Trax! Records subculture.

Remarkably, Depeche Mode never stopped looking ahead. Since forming in the early '80s, it has stayed relevant through the kind of innovation usually associated with younger acts. The collective managed to do so, and stick together, while navigating the sort of inner turmoil — drug and alcohol addictions, suicide attempts, membership changes — that caused many of its peers to dissolve. There have been subpar records and solo projects, extended breaks and personal drama. Yet the group refused to bend to nostalgia or engage autopilot.

The ensemble that held court at the West Side arena on Wednesday — Depeche Mode returns to United Center on Nov. 13 — bore no resemblance to a band whose best days happened years ago, or whose sights were fixed on revisiting past glories at a cushy Las Vegas residency. Accompanied by veteran tour mates Peter Gordeno (synthesizers, bass) and Christian Eigner (drums), Gahan and Gore played with a passion, focus and spirit that suggested they knew their history was still being written.

Offsetting his elegant all-black apparel with white dress shoes, the svelte Gahan and his head of slicked-back hair looked ready for a long night of clubbing. The extroverted singer practically dared everyone to keep up with his moves and tireless energy. He struck poses, showed off flexible hamstrings with fingers-touch-floor bends, wiggled his butt and solicited crowd reactions by stretching his arms akin to a conductor. And he came to dance. Twirling, gliding, prancing and bouncing on the balls of his feet, Gahan transformed into a ballerina in a music box, albeit one with unlimited freedom.

Depeche Mode's diverse fare chased after similar liberation.

Turn to Depeche Mode, *Page 2*

REVIEW 'AIR' ★★★

Damon, Affleck double team tale of Nike's pursuit of No. 23

Matt Damon as Nike marketing executive Sonny Vacarro in director Ben Affleck's "Air." **ANA CARBALLOSA/AMAZON CONTENT SERVICES**

By Michael Phillips
Chicago Tribune

"Air" is a good time, as well as a triumph of sports marketing in every conceivable way. It's a docudrama — really more of a docucomedy-drama, with workplace banter and zingers for fuel — about how Nike marketing executive Sonny Vaccaro, played by Matt Damon, convinced his boss Phil Knight, played by co-star and director Ben Affleck, to cough up the funds to make the pitch to get the basketball star for the ages to sell their shoes. It's a movie about winners, winning.

We do not see Michael Jordan in "Air," aside from a few shots of an essentially nonverbal actor's back, or the back of his head. He's the guy in the room everyone's talking about, a wondrous, never fully revealed figure. Like Jesus Christ in "Ben-Hur."

"Air" is also about spending money to make money, which would make it a period piece in much of corporate America today even if it weren't, in fact, set 39 years ago. In sports movie terms "Air" is the opposite of director Bennett Miller's "Moneyball." That film, a terrific one, told of how Oakland A's general manager Billy Beane scraped together a Basic Economy roster of promising nobodies through the use of sabermetric analysis. In "Air," no metrics are allowed. This is a story of middle- and upper-management gut feelings.

Screenwriter Alex Convery covers three chaotic months in 1984. Nike has recently gone public. The stockholders are restless. In the wake of the latest NBA draft, Vaccaro hunts for affordable rookies to endorse the company's merchandise, which is strong on running equipment but perilously weak on basketball.

Vaccaro has a lean $250,000 to divide among several prospects. But there's a recent Bulls draftee from the University of North Carolina who has something special. Why not put the quarter-million on him alone? Vaccaro needs a career-saver. Nike's basketball division hangs in the balance. Maybe this Jordan kid is it.

The movie, nice and pace-y, divvies its narrative among Vaccaro's colleagues, many skeptical about the endorsement pitch's chances. Jason Bateman portrays marketing director Rob Strasser, trying to repair his post-divorce relationship with his daughter. Chris Tucker is fellow exec Howard White, who was not in the early drafts of "Air." (The actor and comedian says he wrote the White scenes, at the behest of Jordan and Affleck.) In the later scenes

Turn to 'Air', *Page 2*

CELEBRITIES

Depp comeback film to open Cannes

From news services

The historical drama, "Jeanne du Barry," starring Johnny Depp as King Louis XV, will open the 76th Cannes Film Festival.

Organizers of the French festival announced Wednesday that this year's edition will get underway with the period film directed by and starring Maiwenn, the French actor and filmmaker. She plays Louis XV's favorite courtesan, Jeanne du Barry.

"Jeanne du Barry" has been billed as Depp's comeback film following his explosive trial last year with Amber Heard, his ex-wife. After both Depp and Heard accused each other of physical and verbal abuse, a civil jury awarded Depp $10 million in damages and $2 million to Heard. In December, they reached a settlement.

"Jeanne du Barry" will premiere May 16 at Cannes and will be released the same day in French theaters. Netflix is connected with the film but only loosely. The streamer licensed the film for the first post-theatrical window 15 months after its debut and only in France. As of yet, no U.S. release has been announced for "Jeanne du Barry."

Johnny Depp stars as King Louis XV in "Jeanne du Barry," premiering May 16 in France. MARKUS SCHREIBER/AP 2020

Nominees for MTV awards revealed: Tom Cruise's blockbuster "Top Gun: Maverick" and binge-worthy series "Stranger Things" and "The Last of Us" are the top nominees for the 2023 MTV Movie & TV Awards, with six nominations each. The nominees for the event celebrating the best of film and television were announced Wednesday.

Joining "Top Gun" in the best movie category are "Avatar: The Way of Water," "Black Panther: Wakanda Forever," "Elvis," "Nope," "Scream VI" and "Smile."

Top nominees for TV include HBO's "The White Lotus" and Netflix's "Wednesday," which each received four nods. Along with those shows, "Stranger Things" and "The Last of Us," competing for best show are "Wolf Pack," "Yellowstone" and "Yellowjackets."

Among the leading nominees in the unscripted category are "RuPaul's Drag Race," "The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills," "Vanderpump Rules" and "Jersey Shore Family Vacation," with two nods each.

The MTV Movie & TV Awards will air May 7. To see the list of nominees, go to vote.mtv.com. Fans can vote through April 17.

Dealer pleads guilty in Williams' death: A New York City drug dealer pleaded guilty Wednesday to providing actor Michael K. Williams with fentanyl-laced heroin, causing his death.

Irvin Cartagena's plea to a charge of conspiring to distribute drugs was entered in Manhattan federal court. Sentencing was set for Aug. 18, when Cartagena will face a mandatory minimum of five years in prison and the possibility of as many as 40 years.

Williams, who starred in films and TV series such as "The Wire," overdosed in his Brooklyn penthouse apartment in September 2021. Authorities said he died hours after buying the heroin from Cartagena on a Brooklyn sidewalk.

In interviews, Williams had spoken about his battles with addiction.

April 7 birthdays: Singer Bobby Bare is 88. Director Francis Ford Coppola is 84. Singer Patricia Bennett is 76. Musician John Oates is 75. Singer Janis Ian is 72. Actor Jackie Chan is 69. Actor Russell Crowe is 59. Actor Bill Bellamy is 58. Singer John Cooper is 48. Actor Kevin Alejandro is 47. Actor Sian Clifford is 41. Actor Ed Speleers is 35.

ASK AMY

By Amy Dickinson

askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter@askingamy

Online match results in 'Cyrano' situation

Dear Amy: I have met a number of friends online, especially since COVID-19. One of these friends is a guy I became attracted to. He makes me laugh, he's kind, and I genuinely have a good time talking to him. Although we had been friends for the better part of a year, our communication was only over text.

While he had seen photos of me, I had no idea of what he looked like. I don't consider myself to be a shallow person. I have always believed it's what's on the inside that counts.

Well, we finally video chatted last night, and I have no attraction to him at all. I tried convincing myself that the lack of attraction wasn't a big deal, but I couldn't do it. There's nothing wrong with the way he looks, he's just a lot older than I thought and drastically different from what I pictured.

I have been berating myself all day. How dare I suddenly dislike this wonderful guy who I had a great connection with over such a tiny reason? I also feel embarrassed for having gotten my emotions involved without knowing anything about him.

I don't want to hurt him, especially since the reason is so petty and would be harmful if he knew. Am I a terrible woman?

— Prospecting

Dear Prospecting: This dynamic is the very reason I push for in-person (or video meeting) as soon as possible, when people are crushing online.

Start by watching whatever version of "Cyrano" you can gain access to.

You aren't being petty; you aren't being terrible, you're being human. (Have you never experienced a rejection because of a lack of attraction? This is a common and awkward experience for anyone brave enough to swim in the dating pool.)

You're already friends. Now that you've de-crushed, you should guide this relationship back into the friend zone.

Dear Amy: I'm nearing the end of high school. My folks are asking about my graduation plans. I've always made it clear that I would not walk at the graduation ceremony. My family seems to assume I've had a change of heart, but the thought of attending still makes me deeply uncomfortable. For some context, I haven't attended other nonessential school events (prom, sports events, etc.).

While I do understand that graduation is an important milestone for some, it isn't in my case: I will go on to undergrad in the same town with many of the same people from my high school. I really do not want my reluctance to go to the graduation ceremony to escalate this into "a thing" and cause more conflict. Should I stick to my guns, or just suck it up?

— Ungrateful Grad

Dear Ungrateful: When given the choice, I always vote for "stick to your guns" — unless the other choice is to "suck it up," when doing so is a possibility of a relatively brief duration.

I respect your choice over the years to skip events that you know you wouldn't enjoy. Legions of students and former students would agree with you. However, one thing to keep in mind is that graduation is not for you; it's for your parents. They don't care about prom, games and school plays. They might care very much about graduation.

One way to avoid the dreaded "thing" is to know your own mind and to calmly accept the related consequences that might flow from your choice. Sit down with your parents and gauge how much they care about this one event.

If you perceive that they do care, then decide: Are you able to give your folks this little gift? If so, then throw on a cap and gown and walk the walk.

If not, perhaps you could offer your folks a compromise and find another significant way to mark the occasion that you can enjoy as a family. They want to congratulate you — and I hope you'll let them.

Dear Amy: "Lost, Confused and Sad Daughter" was a young person facing the heartbreak of estrangement from her addict mom. Thank you for viewing this from her vantage point. I identified with her painful choice to break from her mother. Yes, she will need to be a good parent to herself. I faced the same situation and want to assure Lost that it does get better.

— Been There

Dear Been There: Thank you for your compassionate response.

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Dave Gahan, center, and Martin Gore, left, of Depeche Mode, perform at the United Center in Chicago on Wednesday. CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

Gahan, right, and Gore of Depeche Mode perform at the United Center in Chicago on Wednesday.

Depeche Mode

from Page 1

With the wounds of the pandemic and Fletcher's death still fresh, several newer tunes came to terms with mortality. Sung by Gore, "Soul with Me" discovered beauty and calm in its inevitability. Framed by a black-and-white video that referenced the chess-playing scene in the 1957 film "The Seventh Seal," the fluttering "Ghosts Again" said its goodbyes and left open the possibility that everyone meets again in an afterlife.

Other songs rubbed up against a tougher subject: the here and now. The grinding, ominous build of "My Cosmos is Mine" and soft texture of "Wagging Tongue" were varied in their sonic approaches, yet joined in cautionary messages of reclamation, ownership and resolve. Grounded by pulsing undercurrents, "Walking in My Shoes" (during which a clever Gahan adjusted his pants and displayed his footwear) took a stand against snap judgment. Hypocrisy also fueled the rave-up "John the Revelator" and a bare-bones rendition of the sorrowful ballad "Condemnation."

Deception, insincerity, censorship, obsessiveness, excess, desperation: Many of the topics Depeche Mode covered seemed tailor-made for our times. Splitting attention between keyboards and guitar, Gore teamed with Gordeno to frame songs with sleek hybrid structures that underlined tensions and pointed a way forward.

Depeche Mode channeled joy on the gospel-tinged plea "Speak to Me," ping-ponging declaration "I Feel You" and peppy synth-pop anthem "Just Can't Get Enough." The smooth, sensual "World in My Eyes" came across as an homage to Fletcher. As the concert unfolded, Gore cracked smiles; Gahan yelped, shouted encouraging commands to the band and paraded about with a mix of sexuality and sophistication in line with the music.

Belying a mechanical exterior, "Stripped" located clarity and truth amid a natural landscape free of urban cacophony and televised distractions. Its sage messages — dating back to the 1986 LP "Black Celebration" — sparked with added resonance in an age of social media, artificial intelligence and environmental ruin. Likewise, the stately "Enjoy the Silence." Words were very unnecessary.

Bob Gendron is a freelance critic.

DEPECHE MODE'S UNITED CENTER SET LIST

- "My Cosmos Is Mine"
- "Wagging Tongue"
- "Walking in My Shoes"
- "It's No Good"
- "Sister of Night"
- "In Your Room"
- "Everything Counts"
- "Precious"
- "Speak to Me"
- "A Question of Lust"
- "Soul with Me"
- "Ghosts Again"
- "I Feel You"
- "A Pain That I'm Used To"
- "World in My Eyes"
- "Wrong"
- "Stripped"
- "John the Revelator"
- "Enjoy the Silence"

Encore

- "Condemnation"
- "Just Can't Get Enough"
- "Never Let Me Down Again"
- "Personal Jesus"

'Air'

from Page 1

depicting the conception and design of what became the Air Jordan prototype, Matthew Maher makes for a beautiful deadpan addition to a strong ensemble as designer Peter Moore, basically the film's Q, in James Bond parlance.

Cleverly and naturally, "Air" keeps its key characters rolling in and out of the storyline. Viola Davis and her real-life husband, Julius Tennon, take the roles of Deloris and James R. Jordan Sr. Early on, dodging the proper channels, Vaccaro travels from Nike's Oregon headquarters to North Carolina to meet, unannounced, with the Jordans about his endorsement pitch. Davis is terrific, as always, but she's terrific here as much for what's withheld, or suggested, rather than stressed or underlined. She has all the cards. And whether it happened this way or not, when Deloris gets down to her specific and unprecedented financial terms, Davis works wonders with a look, and the slightest shifts in vocal intonations on lines such as "You eat, we eat."

The '80s-ness of "Air" goes a little hog-wild, notably with wall-to-wall pop tunes of the era (everything from Dire Straits to the Violent Femmes, the latter always, always welcome). Affleck knows that simply showing up for his scenes as CEO Knight, wearing those ridiculous shades, etc., is half the performance battle. Neither Affleck nor, especially, Damon, visually suggest much of the real-life figures they play; in an HBO project that never came to fruition, Vaccaro was to be played by James Gandolfini, a lot closer to the real Sonny than Damon could ever manage. Is this important? Well, one aspect is, I'd argue. Damon chooses to approach Vaccaro, as written here, as a very earnest and low-key kind of hustler, playing against the rhythm of the movie as a whole. And yet Damon's enjoyable; he knows how to anchor a movie full of more attention-getting side players.

"Air" does have a full share of hogwash moments, including Vaccaro's buzzer-beater entreaty in the climactic pitch meeting to seal the deal with the Jordan family. Why do I resist this sort of thing? Am I just un-American or something? I can only say I tend to resist such things right through and including the moment I don't. Like Affleck's Oscar-winning "Argo," "Air" has a true knack for shamelessly effective audience manipulation en route to a happy ending.

There's a hidden layer of meaning underneath "Air," if you want to look for it. The movie is a project made under the new Artists Equity production banner, which Affleck and Damon launched in order to set up new and artist-friendlier revenue-sharing models in this gushy, uncertain age of streaming content. ("Air" will stream on Amazon later this year; meantime it's opening in theaters.) The key, repeated line in writer Alex Convery's efficient screenplay is Marketing Blather 101, and it works like a charm: "A shoe is always just a shoe, until somebody steps into it."

The "Air" line I found even more inspiring? An even simpler one: "We need to increase spending."

Michael Phillips is a Tribune critic.
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MPA rating: R (for language throughout)
Running time: 1:52
How to watch: In theaters

REVIEW 'SCHMIGADOON!' ★★★½

Musical parody morphs into Schmicago

By Nina Metz
Chicago Tribune

Keegan-Michael Key and Cecily Strong in Season 2 of "Schmigadoon!" **ROBERT FALCONER/APPLE TV+**

A loving spoof of midcentury musicals, from "Brigadoon" to "Oklahoma!" to "Carousel," the Apple TV+ series "Schmigadoon!" returns for a second season with its modern-day couple, played by Keegan-Michael Key and Cecily Strong, stumbling into an entirely different musical twilight zone: A place called Schmicago.

A winking homage to titles from the '60s and '70s — Bob Fosse's greatest hits ("Pippin"/"Chicago"/"Sweet Charity"/"Cabaret"), the hippie-inspired ("Hair"/"Godspell") plus "A Chorus Line," "Sweeney Todd" and more — somehow the comedic zaniness of this improbable mashup works. While I appreciated the show's first season, I quickly lost patience with it; the central joke felt too repetitive. I didn't experience any of that with its move to Schmicago.

Mired in personal and professional ennui, Josh and Melissa (Key and Strong) head back into the woods (ha! A pun worthy of a third season if it tackles the '80s) to recapture that old Schmigadoon magic. But instead of a Technicolor soundstage, they encounter a darker, seedier alternate reality, where they are greeted by a "Pippin"-esque narrator (Tituss Burgess) who performs the opening number promising lots of sex, but no romance: "Does that shock you? We hope it shocks you because we're really puttin' a lot of effort into it!"

Several familiar faces from the first season turn up as new characters, including Dove Cameron as a variation on Sally Bowles. She's the star attraction at a nightclub run under the stern eye of Ann Harada's Madam Frau. Now that's the kind of ridiculous wordplay that I can get behind: Madam Frau!

When a dancer at the club turns up dead, Josh is framed for her murder. His fate left in the hands of a slinky lawyer (Jane Krakowski) offering dubious assurances, Melissa goes undercover as a dancer to find out what really happened.

Before she can do that, Josh breaks out of jail with his cellmate, played by Aaron Tveit in full hippie regalia, who invites the uptight Josh to join his commune and embrace a more laid-back existence.

In an entirely different part of town, a version of "Sweeney Todd" is playing out with Alan Cumming (Schmicago's resident butcher) and Kristin Chenoweth (as his Mrs. Lovett-esque partner in ... something). Don't ask, somehow it all fits together. At six episodes, the show is just the right length — neither belaboring things nor overstaying its welcome.

The series functions like a game of Name that Reference and it's a hoot on those merits alone if you have a decent familiarity with musicals from this era. "Mein Herr" from "Cabaret" is re-imagined as "We've Gone Kaput" (complete with bentwood chair choreography). Melissa's audition at the club is a riff on "I Hope I Get It" from "A Chorus Line," but with a more overt plea for the job: "I Need to Eat." Musically, the groovy harmonies of the "Hair" parody, "Everyone's Gotta Get Naked," might be the catchiest tune of the second season — legitimately at the level of a Broadway musical looking to send the audience out humming.

The songs are from Cinco Paul, who is the show's co-creator with Ken Daurio, and the score is by composer Christopher Willis. The music is stronger this time out, maybe because there's more variety to draw on for inspiration. And with Schmicago, the show escapes the increasingly bland visuals of the first season, both in setting and costumes. Anachronisms abound and yet it all makes a strange sort of sense, from Tveit's bell-bottom jeans and fringed suede vest to Krakowski's leg-baring lady suiting to the saucy little black-and-white leotards worn by Strong, Cameron and Ariana DeBose during Melissa's big number on stage at the club.

DeBose also gets a terrific "Dreamgirls"-inspired number, which is maybe fudging the era a bit since it premiered in '81, but who cares, she belts it out with so much feeling. She, along with Harada, Burgess, Cumming, Chenoweth, Krakowski and Tveit, are legitimate Broadway talents and they've landed on a tone that goes right up to the edge of camp without sacrificing real earnestness when warranted. You have to appreciate the meta-humor of Tveit's character — a draft-dodging free spirit who is the very embodiment of the hippie mantra "don't trust anyone over 30" — being played by an actor who's pushing 40. Age, schmage; Tveit is *very* funny.

With Key and Strong, you have two seasoned pros who actually seem to delight in one another. They understand where the humor lies, but also that none of it matters if Josh and Melissa don't feel like real people. As actors, they're effectively doing double duty here: Embodying the straight man trope (their reactions are full of wonderful little choices and wry facial expressions) but also embracing their surroundings and *playing* in this world.

It's frothy and fizzy but Strong, in particular, is the grounding element. She brings a vulnerability that earns the season's emotionally resonant epilogue as the couple returns home and literally brings color to their lives. They don't need or want the fantasy, they want the real thing:

Happy endings don't exist
But here's a pearl you may have missed
Every day can be a happy beginning.

I've rewatched that closing number a few times and my cold dark heart gets choked up every time.

On its surface, "Schmigadoon!" is a lampoon. Strong gives the kind of performance that turns it into something deeper.

Where to watch: Apple TV+

Nina Metz is a Tribune critic.
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REVIEW 'A THOUSAND AND ONE' ★★★½

A mother fights for her son in a changing New York

By Michael Phillips
Chicago Tribune

Teyana Taylor, left, and Aaron Kingsley Adetola in a scene from "A Thousand and One." **AP**

The title of writer and director A.V. Rockwell's gripping drama "A Thousand and One" is nailed to a Harlem apartment door: 10-01. The hyphen fell off a long time ago.

Behind that door, with a fast-gentrifying city encroaching from the outside, lives Inez, formerly incarcerated, now living with her son, Terry. But freedom is relative, always. Over the course of a decade, Inez's life as a mother, a wife and a keeper of a secret makes for a narrative fraught with danger and potential loss. "A Thousand and One," this year's top jury prize winner at the Sundance Film Festival, puts you through it, but with real feeling, real stakes and an authentic vision guided by a fiercely commanding performance by Teyana Taylor as Inez.

We first see her behind bars on Rikers Island, doing a fellow inmate's hair — Inez is a hairdresser — and then outside, on her own. She has what one character calls a petty-thief rap sheet "as long a ... sidewalk."

The year is 1994. Once back on familiar streets, she spies a 6-year-old boy, Terry, living in foster care, as Inez herself did as a child. Terry is her son, we soon learn. Rockwell's story works from a simple, risky mission: to sneak Terry out of protective foster care and back into her life, as mother and son, hiding from the police, trying to make the best of it.

"Moonlight" style, though in an utterly different, rougher stylistic milieu, "A Thousand and One" keeps Terry at the center of things as much as Inez. He's played by three actors at three ages, at 6 (Aaron Kingsley Adetola), 13 (Aven Courtney) and 17 (Josiah Cross), with remarkable seamlessness. Terry's a kid who burrowed into himself at an early age out of emotional protection. Throughout his adolescence, once Inez's lover Lucky (William Catlett, playing it artfully right down the middle) gets out of prison and becomes a father figure of ambiguous loyalties, the boy exists in a life lived on ever-shifting ground. Yet there are glimmers of hope, and love.

There's a gutting element of suspense in Rockwell's film. At some point, you know and dread that Inez's de facto kidnapping of her son will come back around for a reckoning. Terry's a sharp-witted student, with a real future; Inez will do anything to ensure it.

Through the years, the city remakes itself under Mayors Bloomberg and Giuliani, whose declarations of a better, brighter, implicitly richer and whiter New York City periodically fill the soundtrack. At one point, teenage Terry and his friend run afoul of the NYPD stop-and-frisk routine, and it's handled with sobering matter-of-factness.

The storyline, worked out in the Sundance Lab program, has its knotty and sometimes fuzzy elements, mostly feeding into the setup of the eventual reveal of Inez's long-guarded secret. But I love how Rockwell handles the passing years in "A Thousand and One" so we feel time passing in a blur of little moments and big ones. Also, I love how the movie takes the time to linger with one character (Terry, alone while his mother works, getting into low-level trouble at the apartment) or another. Sometimes the script resorts to an expedient thesis line that plays a mite falsely — "What do two crooks know about raising a family?" Lucky asks Inez at one point — but the movie has a way of getting right back on track.

Rockwell builds it all around a prickly, fascinating character. Taylor seeks the truth in Inez every second, and there's no unearned redemptive nonsense thrown in to make it an easy heartwarmer. What Inez and Lucky and Terry learn may be a redemption story, but not a facile one. The movie, which concerns the travails and rewards of family no less than any number of other Sundance-sprung award-winners including "CODA," is a work of lived-in experience, and a fully dimensional sense of place and people.

Rockwell's short films include the Alicia Keys video "The Gospel" and narratively driven and terrific "Feathers." Working with her cinematographer, Eric Yue, the light and shadow of Inez's life are made literal but casually so. A naturally fluid and kinetic presence, Taylor seizes the day while banking a lot of the heavy emotion in "A Thousand and One." The longtime musician, performer and dancer this time is plainly more exposed emotionally than she's ever needed to be on screen. It's a performance of careful builds and accumulated heartbreak, underneath Inez's protective shell. She's dazzling in a consciously undazzling way here.

Taylor grew up in Harlem; Rockwell was raised in Queens. Their city, Rockwell said in a Slant interview, came through the late '90s and early 2000s in "a way that doesn't serve the citizens and the communities that already existed here. It seems to be getting better just so other people [can] feel like it's more palatable and inviting for them to come in and push the rest of us out." That's the backdrop for Inez's story, and Terry's. And it's being told in countless cities outside of New York.

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MPA rating: R (for language)
Running time: 1:56
How to watch: In theaters

REVIEW 'BOB FOSSE'S DANCIN''

A fascinating if conflicted '70s throwback

By Chris Jones
New York Daily News

The company of "Bob Fosse's Dancin'" on Broadway at the Music Box Theatre in New York. **JULIETA CERVANTES**

NEW YORK — Dancers are athletes; it's just that America doesn't always see.

They've got superhuman bodies and indomitable spirits, their careers are short, they're vulnerable to injury, they're often vessels for the game plans of others and, on a given night, they can fulfill expectations or blow you away as surely as a football running back shaking off defenders.

That truth surely dances around your head at "Bob Fosse's Dancin'," the fascinating if deeply conflicted new Broadway revival of the hit 1978 revue "Dancin'." It's now more tightly branded around its famous, or infamous, choreographer and restaged at the Music Box Theatre by director Wayne Cilento, an original cast member working with a knockout big band sound, a wildly zesty costume design from Reid Bartelme and Harriet Jung, and 22 ensemble company members with equal billing and, I imagine, no living recollection of 1978.

For Broadway dancers, "Dancin' " is a revered part of their collective history, which must put all kinds of pressure on this cast. Here was a show that jettisoned both book and score and the need for the notoriously irascible and control-minded Fosse to joust with either composer or writer. Instead, he used choreography as his entire narrative, pulling from an eclectic range of preexisting music — everything from Johann Sebastian Bach to George M. Cohan to Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller — all performed live and loud and arranged by theme, not form or style.

Sure, dancers also had been front and center in "A Chorus Line," but they were also singing and talking up a storm, as if talking to shrinks eight times a week. "Dancin'" put actual dancing — the athletic artistry, not the traumas and insecurities endemic to the profession — in that spotlight. Fosse's 1970s dancers rehearsed for three months and it all took a massive toll on their bodies; in return, they got a long run, a better salary than dancers had ever received before and they were part of a seminal (and successful) push for a whole new level of pop-cultural legitimacy.

We cannot, of course, go back to 1978. And like many revivals of entertainments from that time, "Dancin' " (now two acts, not three) lands in a kind of uneasy middle ground between past and present, old ways and new. With its Americana, gangsters and snatches of hooky pop songs, its retro aesthetic now feels much like an NBC or BBC variety special from the era, the kind of epic pastiche that disappeared with premium cable.

Dancing is inextricably linked with Midtown Manhattan, and the New York of "Bob Fosse's Dancin' " still is one of prostitution and and peep shops, hoodlums and purveyors of sleaze vying for attention. Robert Brill's set uses LED and video technology that was a figment of dreams in 1978, rendering the show at a previously impossible level of definition, but the visual iconography throws back nonetheless. And that's even though "Dancin'" came before the end of Fosse's career and also has to compete with the later "Fosse," often regarded as the more definitive review, even if that was a valediction and "Dancin'" was, both then and now, a daring risk.

There's another issue at play, too. Fosse was all about unity, conformity and the deliverance of his vision. These days, self-actualization and self-definition are very much in, and there are times in this show (including an awkward ending) when Fosse's quotes feel ill-at-ease in the mouth of a dancer who may or may not feel the same way.

That's the defining (and, some will likely say, debilitating) tension of the night: The legacy of perhaps America's most famous, distinctive and deceased choreographer, as channeled through Cilento, one of the keepers of the flame, and the vitality of young dancers whose personal truths don't have so much to do with seducing big spenders.

For longtime Fosse fans, though, that raging struggle might just be the most interesting thing of all. It was for me, although I suspect the show also will please tourists looking for, well, the kind of sexy, glamorous, sensual Broadway show that mostly has disappeared despite the international audience demand.

Either way, it's truly something to watch phenomenal artists like Peter John Chursin, the beauty of whose dancing just blew me away; of Matti Love, a dancer who understands both vulnerability and power; of Kolton Krause, who holds down center stage; and of Jôvan Dansberry, a beautiful and graceful human whom you watch realizing he had so many choices in life and chose, instead, this road to travel.

Not everyone is at that level but I could also be typing many more names to admire. Frankly, the entire show put me weirdly in the mind of ChatGPT. Here is something it surely can never touch, thank the memories of 1978, thank God, thank Fosse.

"Bob Fosse's Dancin'" is on Broadway at the Music Box Theatre, 239 W. 45th St., New York; dancinbway.com

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Mario, left, voiced by Chris Pratt, and Luigi, voiced by Charlie Day, in Nintendo's animated feature "The Super Mario Bros. Movie." **NINTENDO AND UNIVERSAL STUDIOS**

REVIEW 'THE SUPER MARIO BROS. MOVIE' ★★

Nintendo's fave plumbers back on big screen, sans substance

By Katie Walsh
Tribune News Service

Thirty years ago, the first cinematic adaptation of a video game hit theaters. "Super Mario Bros.," based on the 1985 Nintendo game created by Shigeru Miyamoto, didn't bring the game to life as much as it extrapolated a nightmarish cyberpunk world from its characters. "Max Headroom" directors Rocky Morton and Annabel Jankel were tapped to direct, with Bob Hoskins and John Leguizamo suiting up as Mario and Luigi, the plumbers from Brooklyn.

The production was plagued by power struggles, with distributor Disney attempting an 11th hour swerve into something more kid-friendly than the edgy " 'Blade Runner' for teens" vibe Morton and Jankel brought. Considered an unmitigated disaster at the time, the film is now a cult classic. But Nintendo must have felt they had some unfinished business. Hence, a new, animated, family-friendly version of the movie, courtesy of "Minions" production company Illumination Entertainment.

"The Super Mario Bros. Movie" garnered controversy upon announcement of its voice cast, with Chris Pratt to voice the main mustachioed plumber, the internet preemptively cringing at his potential delivery of Mario's catchphrase, "it's a-me, Mario!" Thankfully, the movie gets that out of the way almost immediately, thanks to a VHS-style TV ad for Mario and Luigi's plumbing business where they affect exaggerated Italian accents. It's a gambit that allows Pratt and Charlie Day, voicing Luigi, to quickly drop the act. But the vocal performances are so unremarkable that it could have been anyone at all.

The one voiceover worth the price of admission is Jack Black as Bowser, the King of the Koopas, an intimidating turtle with a penchant for heavy metal and a yearning for Princess Peach (Anya Taylor-Joy). With Black on the mic, expect Bowser to belt a lot of rock ballads.

Written by Matthew Fogel and co-directed by Aaron Horvath and Michael Jelenic, "The Super Mario Bros. Movie" is mildly amusing, swift, noisy and unrelentingly paced, which is par for the course considering this is the studio that brought us the Minions. At 92 minutes, it stretches a series of gameplay sequences across a barely-there hero's journey story. After Mario and Luigi are sucked into a pipe and transported to the Mushroom Kingdom, Mario sets out to rescue his brother from Bowser with the help of Toad (Keegan-Michael Key) and Princess Peach.

The animation is eye-popping — some elements of this world are almost photorealistic. The style also liberates Mario's activities from the flat horizontal landscapes with which we're familiar, putting a more dynamic point-of-view on his leaps and jumps across obstacles as he's trained by the princess. He learns to use his Power-Ups, faces off with Donkey Kong (Seth Rogen), forging an unlikely alliance, and the crew hits the Rainbow Road in their Mario Karts.

This loud, hectic movie doesn't overstay its welcome, but it wouldn't have the material to last a second longer. It's bright, busy, inoffensive and exactly the opposite of the weird, dark, edgy 1993 movie adaptation. That may be better for the business of Mario, but it's not exactly interesting either.

MPA rating: PG (for action and mild violence)
Running time: 1:32
How to watch: In theaters

Queen, Lambert will rock audiences on expanded tour

By Mark Kennedy
Associated Press

Adam Lambert, left, and Brian May perform in 2019. Queen and Lambert will tour this fall. **ROB GRABOWSKI/INVISION**

Queen and Adam Lambert are hitting the road this fall for a North American expansion of their Rhapsody Tour, with a freshly minted knight onstage and plenty of post-pandemic energy.

The band boasts about a new production with a some new songs added to the set list and a few surprises that members won't reveal.

"We do constantly try and keep ourselves interested because it's nice to change the show around, even in small ways," says drummer Roger Taylor. "Obviously we do some sort of deep cuts whilst at the same time keeping the big hits that everybody knows. People want to see what they know. But it's nice to spice it up with a few things they might not expect."

Kicking off in October, the tour will make 14 stops throughout the U.S. and Canada before closing out in Los Angeles in November. The concerts are being billed as a continuation of Queen's 2017-2019 Rhapsody Tour.

It's the first time the band has toured North America in four years because of the pandemic, and guitarist Brian May — who was recently knighted by King Charles III — says he, Taylor and Lambert have deepened their bond.

"For a long time, we were sitting there thinking, 'What the hell do we do?' But when we came back to it, it was very fresh, which is probably a nice thing," he says. "I think we learned all over again how to interact with each other. So I think we are on a different level."

The band is riding a wave of respect following the 2018 release of the Oscar-winning "Bohemian Rhapsody," the biopic of lead singer Freddie Mercury, who died in 1991.

"It brought in a younger audience," says May. "... The energy of young people is what we're about. We've always been about that. So it's been fantastic for us that a whole new generation understand what we're about and come and want to really rock."

While the band won't reveal the set list, it isn't too hard to predict "Bohemian Rhapsody" will be played. The complex song that no one thought would be a radio hit has emerged as one of their top tracks, in large part because of 1992's "Wayne's World," where it played during a key scene.

"That one took us really into another league," says Taylor, who calls it a "game-changer."

Expect also to hear "Don't Stop Me Now," which Taylor says started as a medium hit and has emerged as a top Queen request, and "Who Wants to Live Forever," which May says Lambert takes "to a different place" live.

The time away has also given members a chance to appreciate finding Lambert, who impressed with a Queen song when he auditioned for "American Idol" during the 2009 season. Lambert started performing with Queen in 2011.

"Our material, our songs, are very eclectic, and the plain fact is that Adam is a truly great singer, and there are not many singers that could cover that range of material as wonderfully as he does," says Taylor.

May agrees, calling Lambert "kind of a gift from God" who combines a powerful voice with a stage presence and emotional interaction with the audience. "He ticks every single box that we could possibly want, and he's quite a nice chap, too," May says.

Lambert, who earlier this year put out "High Drama," an album of covers from such hitmakers as Duran Duran, Bonnie Tyler and Culture Club, says he always tries to keep Mercury at the forefront.

"There's no replacing Freddie Mercury. That's impossible. And so I think we've made it a real priority to sort of honor him every night, every show we do. It's a celebration that includes Freddie. And I think the audience feels that," he says.

As for his knighthood, May jokes his bandmates need to adjust to a new reality.

"I have the sword now," he says, laughing. "They have to be much more respectful."

What to watch

FRIDAY

April 7, 2023

All times Central. Start times can vary based on cable/satellite provider. Confirm times on your on-screen guide.

'Transatlantic'

NETFLIX

Transatlantic

Netflix ■ New Series

Set in 1940-41 and shot entirely on location in Marseille, France, this seven-episode limited series is inspired by The Flight Portfolio, Julie Orringer's novel about the Emergency Rescue Committee, and by the true story of Varian Fry (played by Cory Michael Smith), Mary Jayne Gold (Gillian Jacobs) and Albert Hirschman (Lucas Englander), who were among those who risked their lives to help more than 2,000 refugees escape occupied France, including many writers and artists on the Nazis' most-wanted list.

2nd Chance

Showtime, 7 p.m.

Ex-pizza man Richard Davis shot himself 192 times to prove the worth of his bulletproof vests. But then a police officer died while wearing one. This 2022 doc exposes Davis' reckless side.

The Monkees

AXS TV, 7:30 p.m.

The classic, Emmy-winning 1966-68 music sitcom starring the titular band members — Davy Jones, Micky Dolenz, Michael Nesmith and Peter Tork — as fictionalized versions of themselves trying to make it in the music business joins AXS TV as part of its new Friday Retro Night programming block debuting this evening.

Fire Country

CBS, 8 p.m.

Fresh off his co-hosting gig on last Sunday's CMT Music Awards, multiplatform entertainer Kane Brown adds another platform to his resume as he makes his acting debut with a guest-starring role in tonight's episode, "Off the Rails." Brown plays Robin, an enigmatic, modern-day train hopper who helps injured patients on the scene of a crash; a Robin Hood of sorts, Brown's character is an outlaw on the run with a heart of gold.

Great Performances: Now Hear This

PBS, 8 p.m.

In "Piazzolla's History With Tango," visit Buenos Aires, Argentina, with host Scott Yoo and flutist Alice Dade to explore the evolution of composer Astor Piazzolla's work and the music genre of tango itself as it became fused with jazz across time and numerous instruments.

Blue Bloods

CBS, 9 p.m.

In "Smoke & Mirrors," there's lots for the family to take on as Frank (Tom Selleck) handles a "dream team" problem while Erin (Bridget Moynahan) searches for the online attacker of DA Crawford (Roslyn Ruff). Meanwhile, Jamie (Will Estes) and Danny (Donnie Wahlberg) investigate a carjacking ring.

CATCH A CLASSIC

Friday Night Frights!: Bette Davis Cult Classics

MOVIES!, beginning at 7 p.m.

Bette Davis leads two somewhat campy but terrific thrillers made in her later career this evening, and she co-stars with fellow legends in both. First is **What Ever Happened to Baby Jane?** (1962). Directed by Robert Aldrich, this darkly humorous and horrific cult classic is deliciously gothic and campy fun as it follows an aging former child star (Davis, in a Best Actress Oscar-nominated performance) who torments her paraplegic sister (Joan Crawford), a former movie star, in an old Hollywood mansion. The success of the film opened up doors for these and other actresses to star in subsequent similar types of psychological thrillers led by older women, and one of those, also starring Davis, is next on tonight's lineup: 1964's **Hush ... Hush, Sweet Charlotte (pictured).** Also helmed by Aldrich, this psychological thriller stars Davis as an aging, reclusive Southern belle plagued by a horrifying family secret who descends into madness following the arrival of a lost relative (played by Olivia de Havilland). Co-starring alongside the iconic actresses are other stars who were in the latter stages of their careers: Joseph Cotten, Agnes Moorehead and Mary Astor in her final film role. — *Jeff Pfeiffer*

20TH CENTURY STUDIOS

MOVIES YOU'LL LOVE

'Hidden Figures'

HOPPER STONE

Contact (1997, Science fiction) Jodie Foster, Matthew McConaughey **BBC America, 5 p.m.**

House Party 2 (1991, Comedy) Christopher Reid, Christopher Martin **VH1, 5:30 p.m.**

Goodfellas (1990, Crime drama) Robert De Niro, Ray Liotta **AMC, 6 p.m.**

Hidden Figures (2016, Historical drama) Taraji P. Henson, Octavia Spencer **FXM, 7 p.m.**

Smokey and the Bandit (1977, Comedy) Burt Reynolds, Sally Field **CMT, 7 p.m.**

Friday After Next (2002, Comedy) Ice Cube, Mike Epps **E!, 7:30 p.m.**

Jurassic World (2015, Adventure) Chris Pratt, Bryce Dallas Howard **SYFY, 8 p.m.**

Truly, Madly, Sweetly (2018, Romance) Nikki DeLoach, Dylan Neal **Hallmark Movies & Mysteries, 8 p.m.**

Enemy of the State (1998, Suspense) Will Smith, Gene Hackman **IFC, 9 p.m.**

My Cousin Vinny (1992, Comedy) Joe Pesci, Marisa Tomei **AMC, 9 p.m.**

Next-Door Nightmare (2021, Suspense) Julia Borsellino, Mark Taylor **LMN, 9 p.m.**

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Improv comedians summon viewers to laugh in 'Jury Duty'

By Mark Kennedy
Associated Press

Ronald Gladden, left, and James Marsden attend a property trial in the eight-episode series "Jury Duty." **AMAZON FREEVEE**

So many people want to get out of jury duty these days because they think it's boring or a waste of time. A new TV series shows it can be fun. Bonkers even.

Amazon Freevee's "Jury Duty," now streaming, is an elaborate ruse of a show that builds an entire judicial system around one unsuspecting regular Joe. The judge is fake, the defense team and prosecutors are fake, and his fellow 11 jurors are fake — all superb improv comedians.

"It was the wildest experience I've ever done as an actor and kind of one of the most rewarding experiences," says James Marsden, who plays a horribly conceited version of himself as a juror.

"In this business where it really feels like there's not a lot of original work out there or original ideas, this felt like something that we've never seen before."

It's got elements of "The Office," "Big Brother," "The Truman Show" and "Punk'd." It feels utterly unique by finding Ronald Gladden, a solar contractor from San Diego, and putting him inside Huntington Park Superior Court in Los Angeles County for what could be described as a televised social experiment.

Gladden is told there's a documentary film crew capturing a property trial for public television, but he doesn't know that he's surrounded by actors, who are often being odd. Over three and a half weeks of filming, viewers see Gladden keep the jury together and come to a decision.

"We never wanted to do a show where we were punching down and that Ronald was the butt of the joke," says co-creator and executive producer Lee Eisenberg. "I think that the show has a warmth and an optimism and feels winning, while still being hilarious and weird and surprising."

In each of the eight episodes, the actors stay in character as they interact with Gladden, ordering lunch, going out for drinks and even poking around the crime scene. Gladden later tells us his candid thoughts during confessional camera sit-downs, like on "The Office."

Two jurors hook up with his help, and one needs him to wake her up constantly. He helps Marsden run lines for a fictional film and sees the defense counsel implode. "Maybe this is common," Gladden says in one confession. "I don't know. But I feel like this can't be that common because just crazy stuff keeps happening."

Marsden, whose Hollywood credits include "27 Dresses" and the "Sonic the Hedgehog" movies, turned into what he calls a "very entitled, self-involved version of James Marsden" — a vain actor, eager for attention.

Marsden also insisted that "Jury Duty" not become a prank show and helped create a hero's journey for Gladden. "We lay out a path in front of him to become the leader of this ragtag group of weirdos and unify us all by the end of it," he says.

"We're kind of playing God a little bit in this. I needed to make sure it was more than just getting a laugh out of it," Marsden adds. "It had to have more heart than that. And I think it does."

Participants described an unusual filming process in which there was no set daily dialogue, only possible scenarios and ideas to explore with Gladden as improv actors tapped in or out.

The cast had to make sure they didn't push the comedy too much to prevent Gladden from becoming suspicious. After the reveal, Gladden and the cast have remained friendly and hung out.

Eisenberg says the series has positive things to say about jury duty, which often brings together a cross-section of a city or a county.

"You have to come together. You have to listen. You have to think. You have to have compassion. You have to drop your biases, and you have to come to a decision," he says. "When you put people together in a closed environment, I think you discover that we have more in common than you realize."

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Horoscopes

Today's birthday (April 7): Develop personal talents, skills and ambitions this year. Realize dreams with disciplined efforts following thoughtful plans. Springtime encourages blossoming. Unexpected expenses require adaptation and collaboration this summer, strengthening and renewing partnership bonds this autumn.
Aries (March 21-April 19): Today is a 9. Contribute your energies to reduce debt and build wealth together. Collaboration is key. Find clever ways to reuse and repurpose things.
Taurus (April 20-May 20): 8. Collaborate to realize shared dreams. Share talents to grow and build resources together. Honey gets farther than vinegar. Support each other to blossom.
Gemini (May 21-June 20): 9. Set goals to raise physical performance levels. Action speaks louder than words. Nurture yourself with good food, exercise and rest. Savor time in nature.
Cancer (June 21-July 22): 9. Romance is in the air. Express it with the object of your affection. Discuss passions, interesting curiosities and delightful diversions. Your energy is contagious.
Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): 8. Invent possibilities. Nurture your family with home improvements. Clean and clear clutter. Your trash may be someone else's treasure.
Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): 8. Creative muses inspire your words and illustrations. Share your ideas, passions and dreams. Adapt communications around a transition. Changes confirm your intuition. Practice diplomacy.
Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): 9. Keep lucrative gears in motion. Provide excellent products, services and results. Have faith in your own capabilities and imagination. Prepare a winning pitch.
Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): 9. Review your profile or brand. What do you want to be known for? Build your unique and valuable contribution. Take action for love.
Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): 7. You can get especially productive in private. Nature and beloved creatures inspire your creative spirit. Envision new possibilities. Imagine and dream.
Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): 8. Imagine and envision what you would love. Collaborative efforts get a lucky boost. Build and strengthen lasting connections for shared resilience.
Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): 9. Discover and develop interesting professional opportunities. Put your creativity, talents and passion to work on a juicy project. Your work is gaining respect.
Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): 8. Investigate a fascinating possibility. Study and research. Explore options, opportunities and potential directions. Expand boundaries. Coordinate and network. An adventure develops in conversation.

— Nancy Black, Tribune Content Agency

The Argyle Sweater By Scott Hilburn

Bliss By Harry Bliss

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4/7
IT'S A DEAL. IF NEITHER OF US IS MARRIED IN THREE YEARS, WE GET HITCHED.

Bridge

North-South vulnerable, South deals

North
♠ 4 2
♥ 10 4 3
♦ A 8 7 6 4
♣ A 4 3

West
♠ Q J 10 9 8 5
♥ K 9 8 2
♦ J 10 3
♣ Void

East
♠ 7 3
♥ J 5
♦ K Q 9 5
♣ Q 10 8 7 6

South
♠ A K 6
♥ A Q 7 6
♦ 2
♣ K J 9 5 2

Today's deal is from a team competition in Australia not long ago. North-South at one table reached five clubs – a contract that might make on a good day. This was not a good day. They were doubled and finished down two on this foul lie of the cards.

At the other table, South was Australian expert Pauline Gumby. Gumby has been representing Australia in international play, off and on, since 1980. She and her partner reached three no trump after an auction that is not known to us. West led a high spade to Gumby's ace. She led a low club to dummy's ace, noting West's discard, and then a low club to her nine. She could repeat the club finesse later, but this would only give her eight tricks. She needed another one. What would you do?

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1♣	2♠	Dbl	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♣	Pass
5♣	Pass	Pass	Dbl

All pass

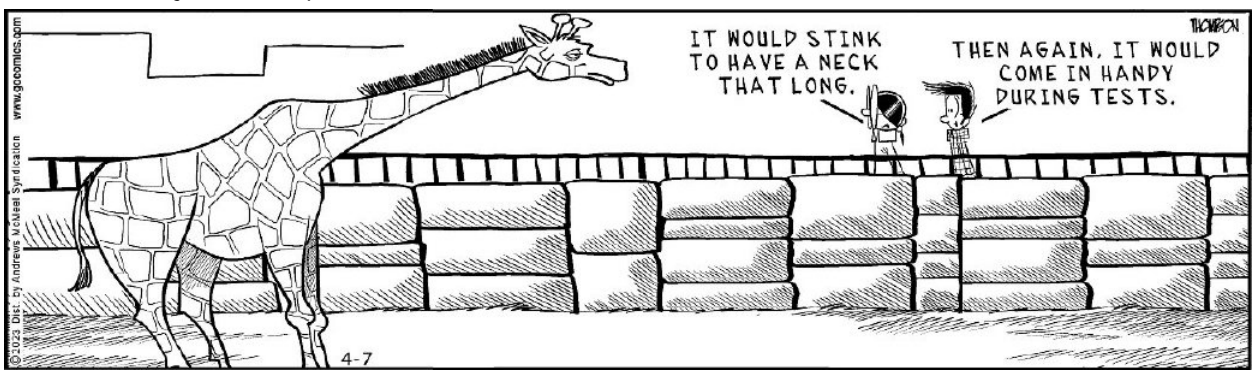
Opening lead: Queen of ♠

Gumby found the remarkable play of leading the queen of hearts from her hand! West won with the king and shifted to the jack of diamonds. Gumby won with dummy's ace and led a club to her jack. She cashed her ace of hearts. When the jack fell from East, dummy's 10 of hearts became her ninth trick. Beautifully done! West jokingly cautioned his partner to hold his hand further back.

— Bob Jones
Tribune Content Agency

Want more COMICS? Go to chicagotribune.com/comics

Grand Avenue By Mike Thompson



Baby Blues By Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott

WAIT! TAKE OFF ANYTHING THAT MIGHT GET ANY DIRT ON THE CARPET!
I WONDER HOW LONG THIS WILL LAST.
PROBABLY FOREVER.
I'M GOOD WITH IT.

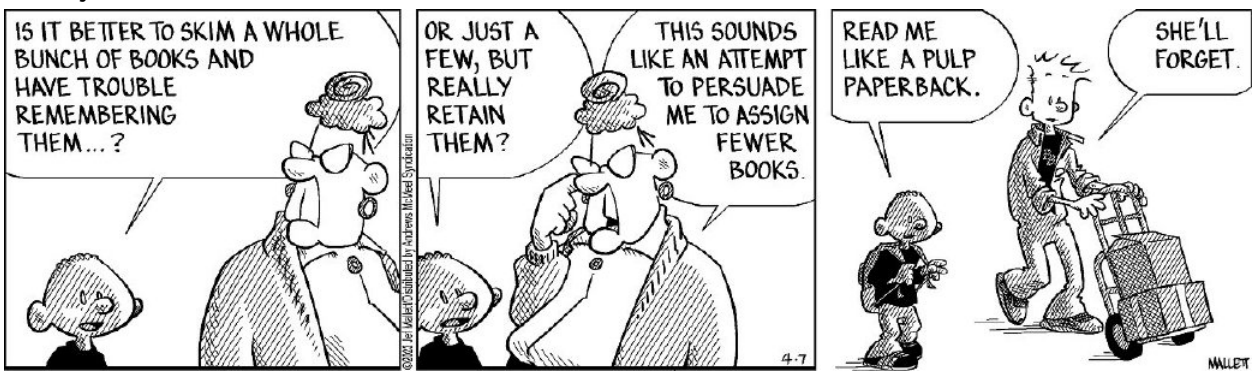
Zits By Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman

MOM, DID YOU KNOW DAD WAS A DORK BEFORE YOU MARRIED HIM?
"DORK" IS A HARSH WORD, JEREMY.
LET'S JUST SAY THAT HE'S ALWAYS BEEN A LITTLE AWKWARD AROUND PEOPLE.
LIKE "WANT-TO-SEE-A-MAGIC-TRICK" AWKWARD?
HIS FIRST WORDS TO ME WERE, "PICK A CARD."

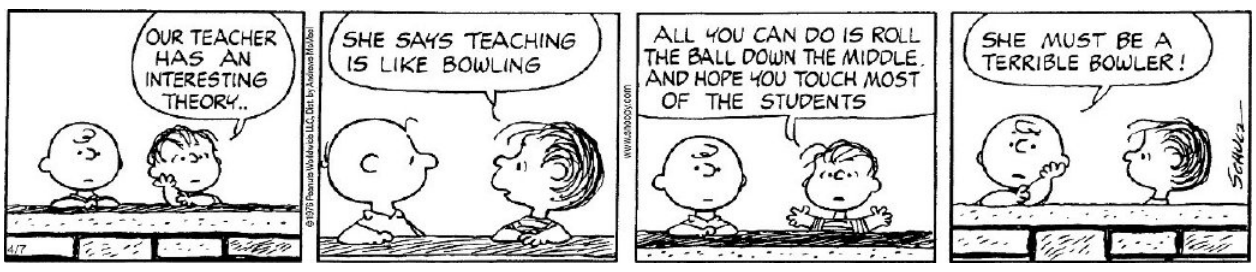
Mr. Boffo By Joe Martin

THE CONSPIRACY MAN
SO YOU THINK IT'S JUST COINCIDENCE THAT THE WEEKENDS GO BY IN A SNAP BUT THE WORK WEEK DRUDGES ON FOREVER?!
REALLY?! THAT MAKES SENSE TO YOU?!
ANIMATIONS/ARCHIVES at MRBOFFO.COM
4-7-23

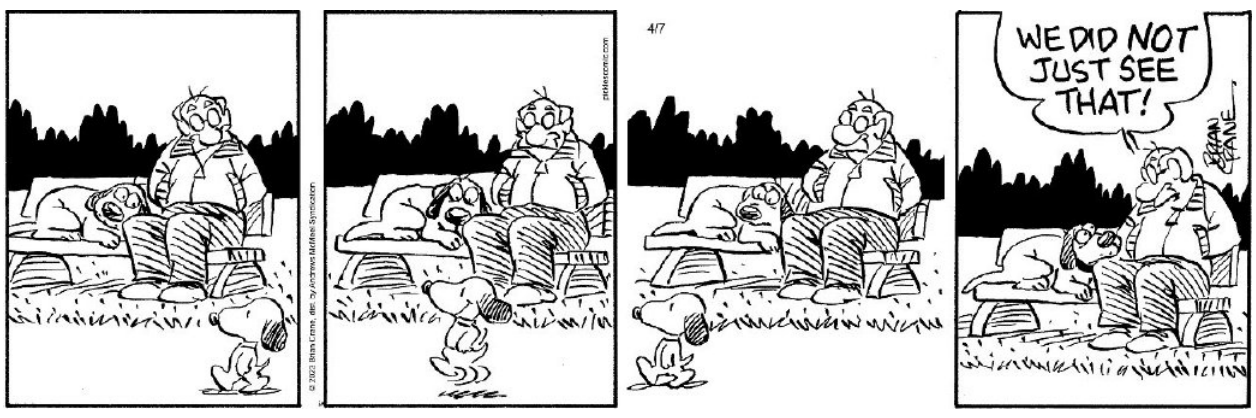
Frazz By Jef Mallett


IS IT BETTER TO SKIM A WHOLE BUNCH OF BOOKS AND HAVE TROUBLE REMEMBERING THEM...?
OR JUST A FEW, BUT REALLY RETAIN THEM?
THIS SOUNDS LIKE AN ATTEMPT TO PERSUADE ME TO ASSIGN FEWER BOOKS.
READ ME LIKE A PULP PAPERBACK.
SHE'LL FORGET.
MALLETT

Classic Peanuts By Charles Schulz


OUR TEACHER HAS AN INTERESTING THEORY..
SHE SAYS TEACHING IS LIKE BOWLING
ALL YOU CAN DO IS ROLL THE BALL DOWN THE MIDDLE, AND HOPE YOU TOUCH MOST OF THE STUDENTS
SHE MUST BE A TERRIBLE BOWLER!
SCHULZ

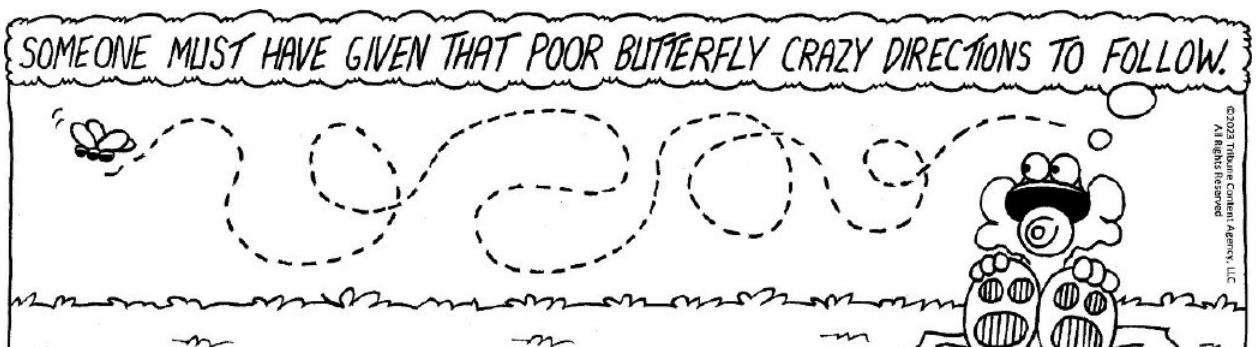
Pickles By Brian Crane



Dick Tracy By Joe Staton and Mike Curtis

I LIKED YOUR 'WOLFE HUNT' STORY, TRACY, BUT NOW THIS PAPERWORK IS EVEN MORE BORING.
I'M HAPPY WE HAVE PEACE AND QUIET TO FINISH IT.
ELSEWHERE
HELLO, SIR! OH MY, IS IT ALLERGY SEASON AGAIN?
BRAD
WHY NO, BRAD, IT'S BANK ROBBERY SEASON!
PLEGER CURTIS

Animal Crackers By Mike Osbun


SOMEONE MUST HAVE GIVEN THAT POOR BUTTERFLY CRAZY DIRECTIONS TO FOLLOW.
OSBUN 4-7
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Prickly City By Scott Stantis

ARE YOU OK, CARMEN?
NOT REALLY, WINSLOW.
I AM WATCHING THE COUNTRY I LOVE UNRAVELING, AND NOT BECAUSE OF FIGHTS OVER BIG IDEAS, BUT PETTY GRIEVANCES. IT BREAKS MY HEART...
ON THE PLUS SIDE, THE NEW SEASON OF "TED LASSO" IS PRETTY GOOD...
WE CLING TO WHAT WE CAN, I SUPPOSE....
STANTIS
2023 SCOTT STANTIS DISTR. BY ANDREWS MCMEEL FOR UFS
4/7 PRICKLYCITY@GMAIL.COM

Dustin By Steve Kelley and Jeff Parker

I AM SO BORED.
COULD THIS BAR BE ANY MORE PATHETIC?
dustincomics.com
©2023 Steve Kelley & Jeff Parker, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.
4-7
KELLY and PARKER
YES. YES, IT COULD.

For Better or for Worse By Lynn Johnston

THE WATER'S COMING IN FASTER, MICHAEL!
I CAN'T GET THE PUMP OUT - IT'S RUSTED IN HERE!
WHAT ABOUT THE SHOP VAC?
BROKEN - AND ALL THE PLUMBERS I'VE CALLED ARE BUSY!
©2023 Lynn Johnston Productions Inc. / Dist. By Andrews McMeel Syndication
GET SOME MORE PAILS!!
I CAN'T FIND ANY!
04-07 www.fborfw.com
WHEN IT RAINS, IT POURS!
LYNN

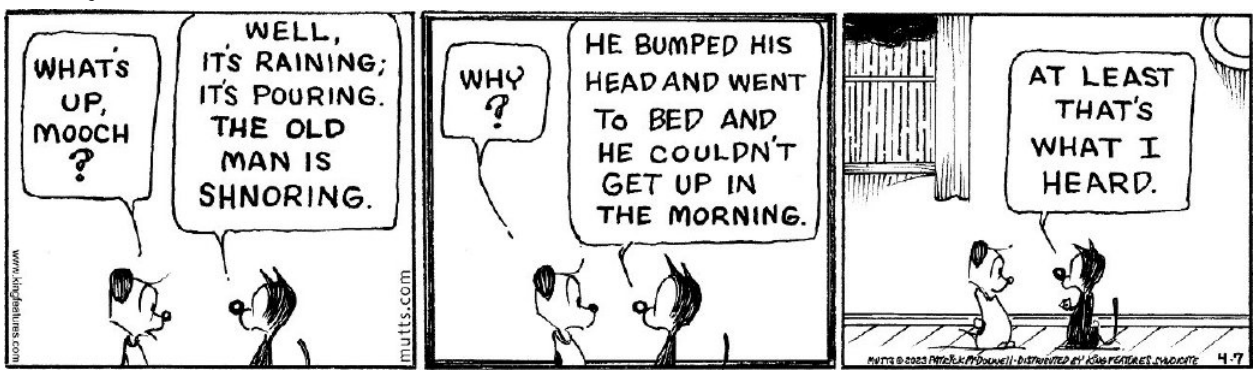
Blondie By Dean Young and John Marshall

THE BOSS HAD A NEW VENDING MACHINE INSTALLED IN THE BREAK ROOM TODAY
THAT'S NICE
© 2023 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World Rights reserved
MAYBE, BUT I THINK HE DID IT TO SEND A MESSAGE TO ME
MARSHALL
IT'S STOCKED WITH NOTHING BUT ENERGY DRINKS LOADED WITH TONS OF CAFFEINE
www.Blondie.com
4-7

Hägar the Horrible By Chris Browne

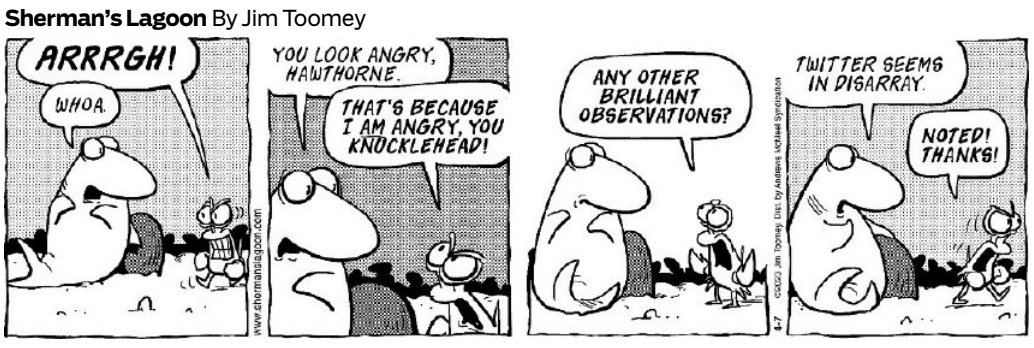
STOP THROWING FOOD TO SNERT! YOU'RE ENCOURAGING HIM TO BEG!
BROWNE
©2023 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.
STOP SERVING TURNIPS! YOU'RE ENCOURAGING ME TO THROW FOOD TO SNERT!
4-7
GNARF

Mutts By Patrick McDonnell


WHAT'S UP, MOOCH?
WELL, IT'S RAINING; IT'S POURING. THE OLD MAN IS SHNORING.
www.kingfeatures.com
mutts.com
WHY?
HE BUMPED HIS HEAD AND WENT TO BED AND HE COULDN'T GET UP IN THE MORNING.
AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT I HEARD.
4-7

WuMo By Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler

Sherman's Lagoon By Jim Toomey



Brewster Rockit: Space Guy! By Tim Rickard

ENLIGHTENED, ENTERTAINED OR ENRAGED? I'M GOING ONLINE, WHICH WILL I BE TODAY?
©2023 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved. 04/07
WHAT!? THAT'S THE DUMBEST THING I EVER HEARD. YOU MORON!!
brewrockit@yahoo.com
www.gocomics.com/brewsterrockit
"ENRAGED" IS MUCH MORE FUN!
Richard

Broom-Hilda By Russell Myers

AM I MISTAKEN OR ARE YOU MELLOWING WITH AGE?
I'M MISTAKEN!
RUSSELL MYERS 4/7
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Trivia Bits

Who wages a court battle against the devil in a short story by Stephen Vincent Benet?

A) Charlemagne
B) Abraham Lincoln
C) Tom Swift
D) Daniel Webster

Thursday's answer: The organ of Corti in the inner ear is involved with hearing.

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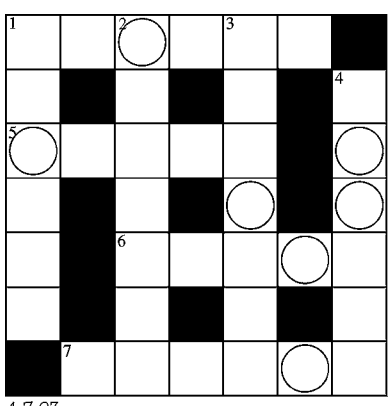
Jumble Crossword



ACROSS

CLUE	ANSWER
1. Rostrum	PUMIDO
5. ___ vines	PREGA
6. Written discourse	SAYES
7. Swiped	ENTLOS

DOWN

CLUE	ANSWER
1. Columbidae bird	PGINEO
2. Local speech	LETADCI
3. Eating ___	EILNUST
4. Crayola product	NOYCAR

How to play - Complete the crossword puzzle by looking at the clues and unscrambling the answers. When the puzzle is complete, unscramble the circled letters to solve the BONUS.

4-7-23

CLUE: ___ is a small country comprising of one large island and six smaller islands in the Caribbean.

BONUS

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ANSWERS: 1A-Podium 5A-Grape 6A-Essay 7A-Stolen 1D-Pigeon 2D-Dialect 3D-Utensil 4D-Crayon 5-Grenada

By David L. Hoyt.

Sudoku 1234

4/7

		1		2	4			
		6						
7					9			6
	1	3		8		9		
4								7
5		9		3		1		
9			8					5
						2		
					6	4		

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box in bold borders contains every digit 1 to 9.

9	3	8	5	7	4	6	2	1
1	5	4	9	2	6	3	8	7
6	7	2	3	8	1	5	4	9
4	6	1	2	5	3	9	7	8
3	2	9	7	4	8	1	6	5
5	8	7	6	1	9	4	3	2
2	4	6	8	9	5	7	1	3
8	1	5	4	3	7	2	9	6
7	9	3	1	6	2	8	5	4

Thursday's solutions

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Jumble

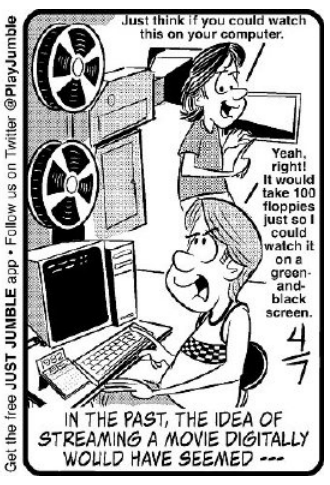
Unscramble the four Jumbles, one letter per square, to form four words. Then arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by this cartoon.

TUAEC

RANBO

PUEPIL

MSIEIL


Just think if you could watch this on your computer.
Yeah, right! It would take 100 floppies just so I could watch it on a green-and-black screen.
4/7
IN THE PAST, THE IDEA OF STREAMING A MOVIE DIGITALLY WOULD HAVE SEEMED ---
Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

Answer here

( ) - " ( ) " - ( )

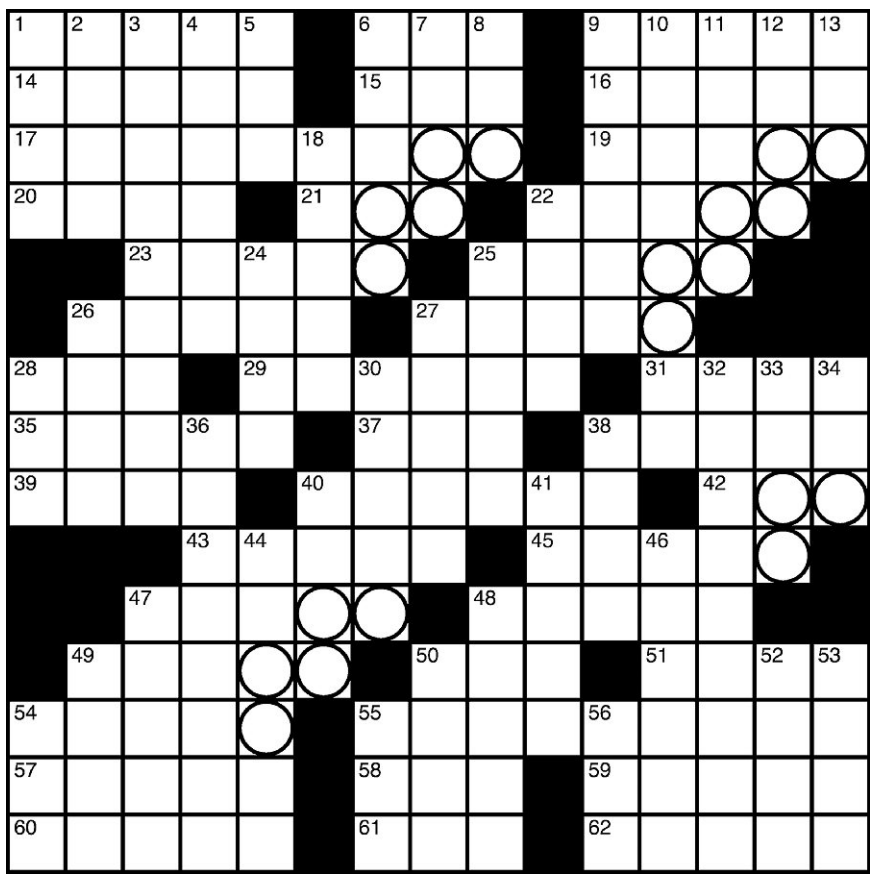
Thursday's answers

Jumbles: FROZE EIGHT PICNIC ADRIFT
Answer: With $1,000 being the most that could be won on the scratch-off game, it was the — GRAND PRIZE

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek. © 2023 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved. PlayJumble.com

Crossword

4/7



Across

1 Home of the College World Series
6 Many Chrome runners
9 Dog breed of Tokyo's Hachiko statues
14 Cars sold at auction
15 Barrel wood
16 Western Wyoming county
17 Giddy
19 Urban Dictionary content
20 "Big __" Delaney: "Sons of Anarchy" character
21 Common toothbrush holder
22 Pop music's __ Vanilli
23 Fritterlike side with fried catfish
25 Emblems
26 "Ditto"
27 "La La Land" Oscar nominee
28 __ milk
29 Recruit with arm-twisting
31 Butter used in saag paneer
35 Haggler's concern
37 Cupcake
38 Past potentates
39 Qdoba snack
40 Con artist?
42 On
43 In the running
45 Blue Apron offering
47 Indiana state flower
48 "Stayin' Alive" genre
49 Any "Gilmore Girls" episode, now
50 Cartoon still
51 Silly fool
54 Roomba target
55 Tiny units of progress depicted four times in this puzzle?
57 Mid-pirouette, say
58 Blue-__: pain relief brand
59 Fine-tune
60 Origin of the street food koshary
61 Freelancer's job
62 Swimming holes

Down

1 Guesstimate phrase
2 Cheesy diner fare
3 Not engaged
4 "We're here!"
5 Cigar end
6 __ shop
7 Photographer Kristin
8 Pie in the __
9 Part of an online tag
10 Breakfast brand
11 Emphatic letters, for short
12 Singer Braxton
13 Filmmaker Lee
18 Allergy season sound
22 Complain
24 Feeling yesterday's yoga class, perhaps
25 Full of beans
26 Name before Wilson or after Rooney
27 Corp. shake-up
28 Go (for)
30 Full of beans
32 Time for a costume from a boo-tique?
33 "Black Panther" villain Killmonger
34 Contractor's fig.
36 Spy mission
38 Cinco menos dos
40 Wolfhard of "Stranger Things"
41 "Revenge" star VanCamp
44 "No doubt about it!"
46 What many modern plays lack
47 Annoying
48 Correct coding errors, say
49 Ladder part
50 Tank
52 Streaming device
53 Judgy syllables
54 Generic surname
55 "I __ to differ"
56 Indy brand

Thursday's solution

P	A	G	E	S		M	A	Y	A		A	W	O	L
A	R	E	P	A		A	M	E	R	I	C	A	N	A
P	A	T	S	Y		N	O	S	E	D	I	V	E	S
A	L	S	O		G	I	S		Y	O	D	E	L	S
		E	M	A	I	L		A	O	L				
M	A	R		E	V	A		J	U	S	T	C	U	Z
E	M	I	G	R	E		T	A	J		B	O	N	O
D	I	O	N		M	U	N	R	O		A	M	M	O
A	G	U	A		E	M	T		K	A	R	E	E	M
L	A	S	T	L	A	P		S	I	P		O	T	S
				A	B	S		E	N	R	O	N		
R	A	T	E	D	R		P	I	G		H	D	T	V
I	M	A	L	L	E	A	R	S		A	G	O	R	A
L	E	M	M	E	A	T	E	M		W	E	W	O	N
E	S	S	O		K	E	Y	S		L	E	N	D	S

By Ella Dershowitz. Edited by Patti Varol and Joyce Nichols Lewis.
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BONUS PUZZLE PAGE

An extra array of word games, search and Jumble. Want more? Play online at ***PlayJumble.com***

Scan QR code to play online.

SUDOKU

		2	3		4	6		
4	5		8					
	1				2			
	9	5						4
	3			1			6	
1						8	9	
			5				3	
					3		8	7
		3	2		6	4		

Level: 1 2 3 **4**

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit *www.sudoku.org.uk.*

1	5	4	6	8	2	3	7	9
7	8	2	3	9	1	4	6	5
6	3	9	7	4	5	1	2	8
3	6	8	5	2	9	7	4	1
5	9	7	9	1	4	8	3	2
4	2	1	8	3	7	5	9	6
8	4	5	2	7	9	6	1	3
2	7	3	1	6	8	9	5	4
9	1	6	4	5	3	2	8	7

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7/13/18

WORD SEARCH

Wordsearch: Baseball team nicknames

270

Can you find all the words hidden in the grid? Read backwards or forwards, up or down, or diagonally. The words will always be in a straight line. Cross them off the list as you find them.

W X L O C O M O T I V E S A G A N Z
S L M I R A C L E M A R L I N S N S
E T V H B O Y S O F Z I M M E R I N
N S T U A N O R T S A S V G E P A Z
I P A N L H R K E S Y S L D I V R E
M S C Z E O N I H I D E B N L E T S
R Y S L C G B C N R B I S V O U E O
A N A K O B R R I A R T S Y G L U H
C P S S U A B B B D R W R T H B L N
R G X C N O E Y S I W W E I X N B O
E O U O S G B X P X A G E C D I G S
D G M O N E A E P I R A N H A S I M
L O X A A Y S K C A B D A S K Y B I
E S R R O R M X S J B V C U N O U R
G O S A Y M A Y K I D S C R X B M C
S X B G U S N A K E S U U C H W M N
O R A N G E G I A N T S B B H T A Z
N E M T I H E D I S H T U O S J T S

ASTRONAUTS
BABY BEARS
BIG BLUE TRAIN
BOSOX
BOYS IN BLUE
BOYS OF ZIMMER
BUCCANEERS
CARMINES
CRIMSON HOSE
CRUSH CITY
CUBBIES
D-BACKS
GO-GO SOX
LOCOMOTIVES
MIRACLE MARLINS
MONARCHS
ORANGE BIRDS
ORANGE GIANTS
PALE HOSE
PINSTRIPES
PIRANHAS
REDBIRDS
REDLEGS
ROCKS
SAWX
SAY MAY KIDS
SNAKES
SOUTH SIDE HITMEN

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BOGGLE

Boggle® BrainBusters!™ BUPHWOLSGOKEAGLM

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

J	I	T	L
U	R	A	W
D	E	Y	C
B	G	N	H

INSTRUCTIONS: Find as many words as you can by linking letters up, down, side-to-side and diagonally, writing words on a blank sheet of paper. You may only use each letter box once within a single word. Play with a friend and compare word finds, crossing out common words.

BOGGLE® POINT SCALE
- 3 letters = 1 point
- 4 letters = 2 points
- 5 letters = 3 points
- 6 letters = 4 points
- 7 letters = 6 points
- 8 letters = 10 points
- 9+ letters = 15 points

YOUR BOGGLE® RATING
- 151+ = Champ
- 101-150 = Expert
- 61-100 = Pro
- 31 - 60 = Gamer
- 21 - 30 = Rookie
- 11 - 21 = Amateur
- 0 - 10 = Try again

Boggle® BrainBusters Bonus

We put special brain-busting words into the grid of letters. Can you find them?

Find AT LEAST FIVE WORDS RELATED TO COURTROOMS in the grid of letters.

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

JURY TRIAL JUDGE BENCH LAWYER

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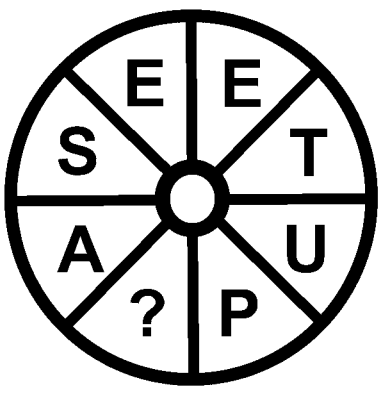
1-7-21

www.bogglebrainbusters.com

WordWheel



Insert the missing letter to complete an eight-letter word reading clockwise or counterclockwise.

AMPUTEES

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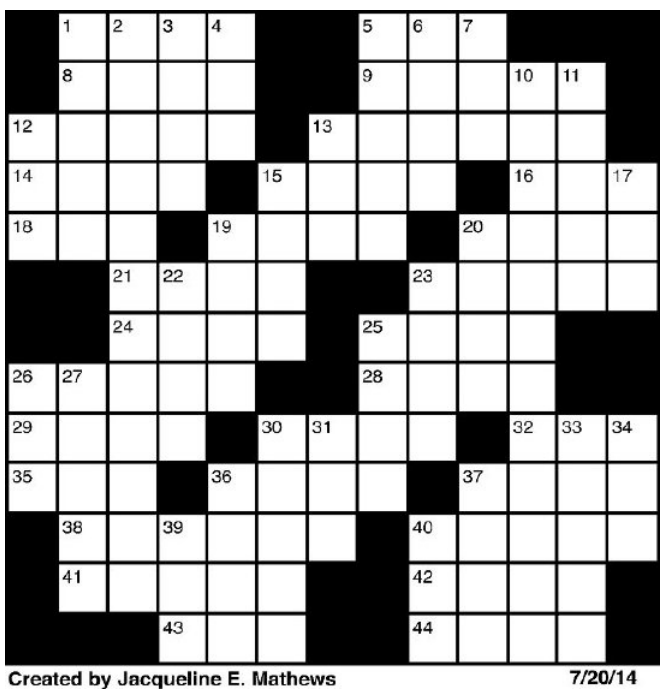
1/19

TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

7/20/14

ACROSS
1 "Chicago __"
5 "Tarzan the __ Man"
8 "The Crazy __"; Robin Williams sitcom
9 "Friday __ Lights"
12 Johnson of "Laugh-In" & others
13 "__ Town"
14 __ tea; cold beverage
15 David Schwimmer's role on "Friends"
16 Fabled napper __ Van Winkle
18 Diner owner on "Alice"
19 Actress Lange
20 Fly high
21 Majors and Remick
23 Crystal or Joel
24 Eric __ of Monty Python
25 "__ Man Walking"; movie for Susan Sarandon
26 "How I Met Your Mother" actor
28 "Gomer Pyle: __"
29 Sherman Hemsley sitcom
30 Late newscaster Huntley
32 Rower's need
35 "A Gifted __"
36 Tavern orders
37 Downey of "Touched by an Angel"
38 "The __ Cometh"; Lee Marvin movie
40 One of the Seven Dwarfs
41 __ Jethro Gibbs; "NCIS" role
42 "__ Season"; Ashton Kutcher film
43 Donkey
44 Urkel, for one

DOWN
1 "Air __ One"; Harrison Ford film
2 Josh Holloway sci-fi series
3 Rex or Donna
4 Suffix for host or heir
5 Won by __; eked out a victory
6 Name for twelve popes
7 "The __ and I"; Fred MacMurray movie
10 Role on "The Blacklist"
11 "Law & Order: __ by Jury"
12 Shoot carefully
13 "Beverly Hills __"; Eddie Murphy movie
15 Role on "The Golden Girls"
17 Crowbar
19 "Drag Me to __"; horror film for Alison Lohman
20 Setting for "The King and I"
22 Actress Sher of "The Middle"
23 "Father Knows __"
25 Club member's fees
26 Role on "Cheers"
27 Means of communication
30 Pottery materials
31 Egg producer
33 Turn over a new leaf
34 Frank and Marie Barone's younger son
36 Actor John of "Good Times"
37 Lasso
39 Historical period
40 Adams or Johnson

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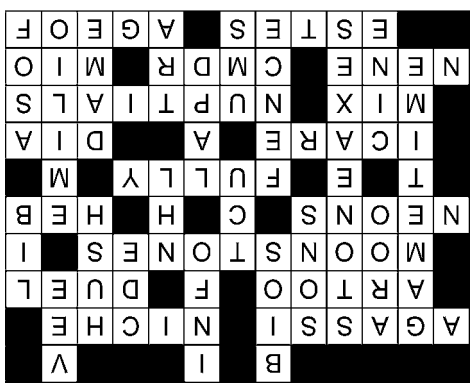
7/20/14

Baseball team nicknames



JUMBLE

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

RACYR

OBATO

LENKIU

MTRWAH

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THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Let's go fishing. Doesn't the publisher have editors to do this?
Once I've gone through this a third time, I'll be ready.
HENRY DAVID PROOFREAD "WALDEN" CAREFULLY. AFTER ALL, HE WAS KNOWN FOR HIS ---

Check out the new, free JUST JUMBLE app

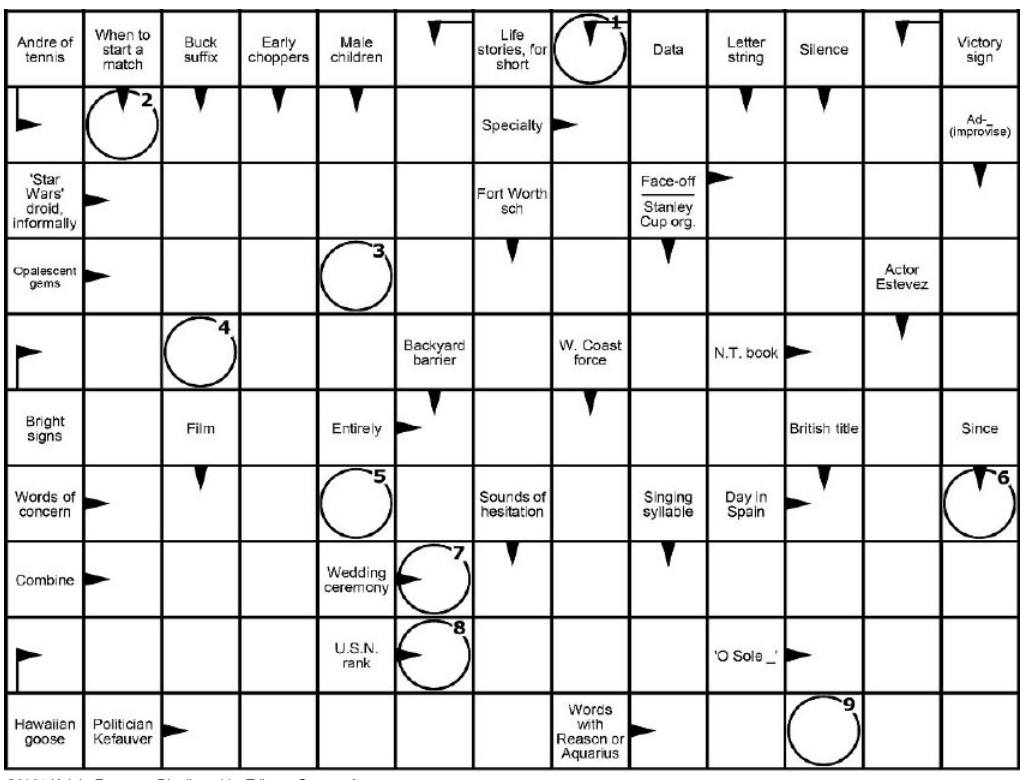
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

"_____" _____

Jumbles: CARRY TABOO UNLIKE WARMTH
Answer: Henry David proofread "Walden" carefully. After all, he was known for his — "THOREAU" WORK

ARROW WORDS

Fill in the grid using the clues provided in the direction of the arrows. When complete, unscramble the letters in the circles to reveal a mystery word.



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4/11/21

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

KIDNEWS FUN & GAMES